



Kim McWhite of First Church, Summit.



Monica Hinkle of Daniel Memorial Church, Jackson.



Jennifer Malone of Daniel Memorial, Jackson.

Bible Drills

A total of 275 children and youths participated in the state Bible Drills at Alta Woods Church in Jackson this past Saturday. At the same time 197 were participating at Colonial Heights Church, Jackson. Statewide totals will be available later.

The Baptist Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

MAY 10, 1984

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Youth drug use dropping

By David Wilkinson

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—Recent surveys indicate the statistical "high" in drug use by America's young people may be over. Nevertheless, the nation's drug problem remains acute.

The latest Gallup Youth Survey, for example, found an increasing percentage of teenagers cite drug abuse as the biggest problem facing their generation.

The Gallup organization said 27 percent of teenagers polled in 1977 named drug abuse as the No. 1 problem. In 1983 that figure rose to 35 percent.

Good news can be found, however, in a government-sponsored survey

The survey of young adolescents by the Search Institute of Minneapolis, was conducted for a conference earlier this year on Listening to Early Adolescents and their Parents (LEAP).

It found 23.5 percent of Southern Baptist youth surveyed indicated use of alcohol within the past year, compared to 35.5 percent of the national sample. Respective figures for use of cigarettes were 10.2 percent compared to 13 percent; for use of "hard" drugs, 8.6 percent compared to 9.3 percent.

Ronald D. Sisk of the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission believes the national surveys indicate "perhaps the worst of the drug

As for Southern Baptist youth, a new survey found they report a less frequent use of alcohol and marijuana and less frequent attendance at parties where beer or liquor is available than other young people. Yet the study also concluded Southern Baptist youth differ only slightly from others in the use of hard drugs or cigarettes.

conducted by the University of Michigan. The annual survey of more than 16,000 high school seniors across the country found the percentage who smoke marijuana every day fell by nearly half over the last five years.

The study reported daily marijuana use dropped from a peak of nearly 11 percent of those surveyed in 1978 to 5.5 percent of the 1983 graduating class. It marked the lowest level since the survey began in 1975 and reflected a continuing decrease in use of illicit drugs.

On the other hand, directors of the study pointed out teenagers' use of other drugs, such as tranquilizers, heroin, nitrites, and PCP generally remained steady after earlier declines.

Nearly two-thirds of young people surveyed said they have tried an illicit drug by the time they finish high school. One in six said they have used cocaine.

As for Southern Baptist youth, a new survey found they report a less frequent use of alcohol and marijuana and less frequent attendance at parties where beer or liquor is available than other young people. Yet the study also concluded Southern Baptist youth differ only slightly from others in the use of hard drugs or cigarettes.

epidemic of the last decade is passing. Our youth seem to be buying the common sense argument that drugs are bad for you."

"Still," he added, "there are serious reasons for concern."

Sisk, who directs education and action on abuse of alcohol and other drugs, pointed out extensive use of alcohol at parties means many young people are continuing to drink and drive. And the 21 percent of high school seniors who smoke cigarettes daily, according to the University of Michigan survey, "are preparing themselves for a lifetime of ill-health."

The figures on Southern Baptist youth indicate "we have not done as well as we should have in education about Christian lifestyles," he said. "We have told the Bible story of Daniel and the wine, but we have not helped youth see the importance of caring for their bodies in regard to all substance use."

Southern Baptists, he added, are "particular sinners" in regard to tobacco. "Too many Southern Baptist adults continue to smoke in the face of overwhelming evidence that smoking causes cancer." The national statistics, Sisk said, should be viewed as a call to action.

(Wilkinson writes for the Christian Life Commission.)



From left are Lisa Woods, Laurie McEachern and Necie Jones of Daniel Memorial, Jackson; Carman Henley of First Church, Yazoo City; and Kathleen Smith of First Church, Brookhaven.



Scott Hodges of Mt. Vernon Church, Newton Association, receives his award from Mose Dangerfield and Bill Hardy. Dangerfield directs the Church Training Department. Hardy is minister of education at First Church, Columbus.

Editorials..... by don mcgregor

Where is the harmony?

We Baptists have a reputation for fussing among ourselves. We always have. Very likely, we always will. There is nobody to tell us what we must believe to be a Baptist or how we must conduct ourselves because we are. If there were such a person, we wouldn't be Baptists.

So what do we do? We exercise our responsibility and our God-given right to express ourselves. And then we determine our course of action by majority opinion. The majority may not be right, but we have no other choice.

A group which calls itself inerrantists is seeking to effect changes which it hopes will bring about what it calls parity in faculty members, thereby achieving an aim of having its viewpoints taught in colleges and seminaries.

On the other hand there is a group which calls itself moderates, and the aim of this group is to seek to stymie the efforts of the inerrantists. That would mean, of course, that this group feels things are in pretty good shape as they are. The moderates as an organization are not as large as the inerrantists, but the strength of either group lies in the numbers of people it can convince to support its efforts. Neither group is big enough in itself to sway a vote in its direction.

To this point there has been no public pronouncement of what the inerrancy group wants taught or who it wants to teach it. All that has been discussed is what it doesn't want taught and who it doesn't want to teach. To try to come to a consensus on the positive side of the question is an entirely different matter.

Those matters must be handled by seminary and college trustees, and the inerrantist faction, being aware of this, is seeking to obtain a majority of trusteeships in order to accomplish its purpose.

Perhaps that group will take control of the Southern Baptist Convention. It is organized and capable. Should it do so, however, its Baptist tendencies eventually would take over, and there would be divisions of thought within its ranks. Such would be bound to happen.

When and if it reaches its desired goal, however, the group might be in for a surprise.

There may be a great many more inerrantists already among the trustees and on the faculties of the schools than had been imagined. It could be that they just never had thought to call themselves that. It is very likely that at least 99 percent of Southern Baptists believe in their own version of the inerrancy of the scriptures. The inerrancy faction, however, is not large.

The inerrantists are truly correct, however, in believing that the convention goes the way of seminary teaching, for it is the pastors of the convention who shape its course. They reflect what they learned in seminary, and properly so. That is why we have seminaries.

Some years ago, Southern Baptist scholars were all Southern Baptist taught and trained. We taught our own, and no one went outside of Southern Baptist influence to seek a broader understanding.

Then gradually our young scholars began to attend other centers of learning and gradually new thoughts and interpretations began to be heard. This is a frightening concept to some.

Should we fear new thought? If so, should we not be at least somewhat fearful of our own in-bred concepts that have not accepted examination? Are our scholars not wise enough to separate truth from error? If some are not, of course, we do indeed need to be aware of it.

These are serious questions. There will be no easy answers. But they are the questions that are troubling Southern Baptists right now, and answers are being demanded.

Can we find them? Yes, we can. But we can only find them by searching the scriptures, by having the patience to listen to each other, and by depending on the Lord to provide direction.

Will we be able to arrive at such conditions as these? That is the more searching question and the more intense one. The Southern Baptist Convention will not split. There is nothing to split. It is all voluntary, and individuals and churches come and go as they please. The convention actually is not an organization. The only organized bodies are those brought into being and controlled by the messengers elected by the churches.

The answer we provide to the question of searching the scripture, of listening to each other (and that is a two-way street), and of depending on the Lord will determine whether or not we find peace among ourselves or continue for any number of years to be quarrelsome with each other.

Can we afford to continue quarreling? The answer to that question depends on our interest in complying with the terms of the Great Commission and of implementing our convention-adopted vehicle for accomplishing the Great Commission, Bold Mission Thrust.

In suggesting that Southern Baptists find a statement of bedrock beliefs as mentioned last week, SBC President Jimmy Draper was trying to find an area of agreement. He has continually called for Southern Baptists to begin talking to each other. That does not mean that inerrantists will do all the talking and everybody else must listen or that moderates will do all the talking and everybody else must listen or that the great mass of Southern Baptists who are neither will do all the talking and everybody else must listen. It means that everybody talks some and everybody listens a great deal.

This would not be an easy thing to accomplish among 14 million people. We will do it, however, or we will go right on down the road the way we are going now.

Talking to each other won't erase the differences that we have; but if we work at it, it will allow us to understand each other better and be better able to work in harmony. Harmony comes from differing notes, but they sound good together. Surely the Lord would enjoy the harmonious notes rather than the discord that could become even more dominant.

Guest opinion . . .

Association Emphasis Week in Mississippi

By J. Ray Grissett

In the local churches and associations across Mississippi as well as throughout the Southern Baptist Convention, May 21-27, 1984, will be observed as Associational Emphasis Week. This year the emphasis is on "The Association: Churches Reaching All Peoples," which stresses a commitment to the fact of biblical revelation and to the task of contextualization as they relate to world evangelization. America, a cultural mosaic of mankind, has a world at her doorsteps. This, the task of world

evangelization, presents a challenge to Christians in the United States and especially in Mississippi to be on mission in their communities unto the world.

While each of the associations in our state may vary as to exactly how they program and promote this emphasis, each one will attempt to communicate to our Mississippi Baptists the importance and functions of the association. The week is designated to create an awareness of and foster an appreciation for associa-

tional work among our Mississippi Baptists. More specifically, it is designated to assist associations in telling their stories in a manner that will elicit support of and involvement in associational work. The overall objective is to promote the association, not the week.

Information gleaned from associational newsletters indicates a variety of approaches and an intensified involvement of the local association in securing distinctive information for their people. Some examples of the

variety that we are noting are the exchange of pulpits for the purpose of sharing associational information with the various churches, the use of the monthly associational newsletters to present testimonials of church members as to the role and influence of associational work in their lives, and the promotion of special mission ventures in which the associations are involved. A number of our associations provide a slide presentation that depicts the work of the as-

(Continued on page 10)

VITAL CONFERENCES



Stop fighting, the battle is won

The time-worn phrase which establishes the fact that "If it's not one thing, it's another" certainly holds true concerning bogus petitions, whether it be something relating to Madalyn Murray O'Hair or *Modern People News*.

With regularity there surfaces a petition directed to the Federal Communications Commission that would seek to urge the commission not to rule favorably on Mrs. O'Hair's attempt to have all religious broadcasting thrown off the air.

There never was such an effort. There was a move to ask the commission not to license new religious radio stations, but it was not initiated by Mrs. O'Hair. And it was disallowed in 1975.

With the waning of the religious broadcasting petitions, however, there comes one relating to *Modern People News* and the consideration by that publication of producing a movie on the sex life of Jesus. *Modern People News* at one time did consider making such a movie. I talked to them about seven years ago, however, and they admitted such a plan;

but they had discarded the idea because of the tremendous opposition that they had received as they had announced the project.

Six years ago *Modern People News* went out of business. I called the telephone company, and there was no number listed for the paper. I called the attorney general's office in the state and was given the information that the paper had folded.

The petitions that are being circulated are directed to Attorney General Scott. He has not been in office for four years. A lady working in the office of his successor, however, told me that mail is continuing to pile up in protest of the movie. She is the one who opens it all, and she indicated that since Dec. 1, 1983, the office has received 50,000 protests. That would average out to be about 3,000 per week or 600 per day. She was hoping that the problem would go away before long.

No one knows how these bogus petitions get started or why they keep surfacing. William Murray, the

(Continued on page 8)

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Volume 108

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Woman's Missionary Union

Annual meeting

June 9-11, 1984

National Prayer Conference, June 9, 1984

Radisson-Muehlebach Hotel—Municipal Auditorium Arena

THEME: "Laborers Together"

Saturday Morning, June 9, 1984, Radisson-Muehlebach Hotel
"The Local Church in Missions"

10:00—Hymn of Praise, Congregation

—Special Music

—Speaking to the Challenges of Today in the Church—Charlotte Green, WMU director, First Baptist Church, Federal Way, Washington; Nelson Duke, pastor, First Baptist Church, Jefferson City, Mo.

—Partners in Prayer—Barbara Bray, president, Missouri WMU, Knob Noster, Mo.

"The Association in Missions"

11:00—Hymn of Praise, Congregation

—Special Music—John Hamilton, pastor, University Baptist Church, Ames, Iowa

—Speaking to the Challenges of Today in the Association—Joy Pitts, WMU director, Union Baptist Association, Houston; James Lewis, director, associational missions division, Home Mission Board, Atlanta

—Partners in Prayer—Mickey Patrick, president, Illinois WMU, Lindenhurst, Ill.

12:00—Lunch, Radisson Muehlebach Hotel (Advance ticket purchase necessary)

"The State Convention in Missions"

1:00—Hymn of Praise—Congregation

—Special Music

—Speaking to the Challenges of Today in The State Convention—William Pinson, executive director, Baptist General Convention of Texas, Dallas; Nancy Curtis, executive director, Woman's Missionary Union, Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Cary, N.C.

—Partners in Prayer—Jeanie Nolan, president, Kansas-Nebraska WMU, Wellington, Kan.

(Continued on page 4)

WMU theme to be 'Laborers Together'

By Carol Sisson

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (BP)—"Laborers Together" is the theme of the 1984 Woman's Missionary Union's annual meeting to be held June 10-11 in Kansas City, Mo.

The meeting will climax WMU's year-long emphasis on Partnership in Prayer and Ministry. Sessions will explore partnership roles of church, associations, state and national levels.

The meeting, immediately preceding the Southern Baptist Convention, will be a practical expression of WMU's commitment to accomplishing goals of Bold Mission Thrust.

"Perhaps at no other time in history has it been as expedient that we work together to proclaim the Good News as it is today," said June Whitlow, WMU associate executive director.

The WMU sponsored national prayer conference on June 9 will also carry the Laborers Together theme. The conference will focus on praying for the partnerships to be explored at the annual meeting session. The national prayer conference will be held at the Radisson-Muehlebach Hotel and the annual meeting at the municipal auditorium arena.

"Speakers at both meetings were chosen as good role models of partnership" according to Whitlow.

Home and foreign missionary speakers will share their unique perspective on the subject of partnership.

SBC President James T. Draper Jr., will address "Partners Through the Church" in Monday's closing session.

Other speakers will include state WMU leaders and SBC agency representatives.

Bobbie Sorrell, author of the new biography, "Annie Armstrong: Dreamer in Action," will sign copies of the book at an annual meeting autograph party.

Three men representing Baptist agencies which were closely tied to Annie Armstrong will speak in annual meeting sessions about those special relationships. The men are Lloyd Elder, Sunday School Board president; R. Keith Parks, Foreign Mission Board president and William G. Tanner, Home Mission Board president.

Musicians will be Susan Baker, Bolivar, Mo., and John Hamilton, pastor of University Baptist Church in Ames, Iowa. Music director will be Donald C. Brown, music department chairman, William Jewell College, Liberty, Mo.

(Carol Sisson is writer for Woman's Missionary Union.)

The Baptist Record

Pastors' meeting plans 'encouraging' sessions

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (BP)—"Encouraging the Servant of God" will be the theme of the 1984 Pastors' Conference in H. Roe Bartle Hall in the Kansas City Convention Center.

The Pastors' Conference, to be June 10-11, is one of the auxiliary meetings to the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention, scheduled June 12-14, also in Bartle Hall.

Charles F. Stanley, pastor of First Baptist Church of Atlanta, and Pastors' Conference president, said the theme of encouragement is "exactly what we want to do. Every facet of the program is committed to helping the pastor in a specific area."

"We will not just be preaching to each other, but encouraging one another in areas in which we have to live every day."

Stanley added: "I think what motivated us to move in this direction is that we have seen so many pastors hurting in so many areas of their lives: finances, conflict in the church, families. Hundreds are fired every year. All of the turmoil that happens and the distress that occurs eventually takes place in the lives of the wives and children, too."

"We asked ourselves where these men were hurting and who could speak most effectively to these subjects."

Stanley added the criteria for

selecting speakers was based primarily on seeking persons who could speak most effectively to the areas of need.

Speakers include Bailey E. Smith, pastor of First Southern Baptist Church of Del City, Okla., and immediate past president of the SBC, who will speak on the topic of "Encouraging the Servant of God."

Others are Franky Schaeffer, a Christian filmmaker who will speak on standing in the gap; Roy Fish, professor of evangelism at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas, who will address personal evangelism; Ron Lewis, consultant for Church Growth Designs in Nashville, Tenn., who will talk of church growth; and Jerry Drape, an evangelist from Jacksonville, Fla., who will speak on real revival.

Also included are Charles Lowery, director of counseling services at First Baptist Church, Dallas, on the topic of handling stress; Larry Burkett, president of Christian Financial Concepts in Dahlonega, Ga., on finances; Stephen Olford of Encounter Ministries in Wheaton, Ill., on personal discipline; and O. S. Hawkins, pastor of First Baptist Church, Fort Lauderdale, Fla., on reaching goals.

The Monday evening program will feature Zig Ziglar, motivational speaker on moral standards; Edwin

Young, pastor of Second Baptist Church in Houston, on family life; and David Seamands, pastor of Wilmore United Methodist Church in Wilmore, Ky., on inner healing.

"We are trusting the concluding night will be a great night of spiritual and emotional healing for people who are hurting," Stanley said, adding Seamands will speak on inner healing, a real need among many ministers.

"He (Seamands) has said 75 percent of the people who come to him for counseling are church staffers who are disillusioned, who have been deeply hurt, who feel rejected, who feel people are ungrateful for their labors or have strife in their family life," Stanley added.

Stanley said the announcement of the SBC Forum, a meeting for pastors and others in the Convention Center Music Hall Monday afternoon, (June 11) "has had no impact" on the planning of the Pastors' Conference.

"We started working on this program a long time (before the Forum). I heard about it, and moved right along with our plans. I would say I think we have planned a helpful program and anybody who misses it will miss a time of refreshing for their own ministry and their own life. We would like to see people helped through the program."

Art Nelson would like to see churches pool interest funds

By Tim Nicholas

Art Nelson, who retired last week as business manager of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board,



Art Nelson

spent his 26 year career developing and implementing a system of sound business practices. But "it hasn't been easy," admits Nelson, who was interviewed in his home the first day after retirement.

"I had to overcome a lot of prejudices," he says. For instance, when Nelson began placing extraneous funds into overnight and short term savings and money market accounts, he was told by some Baptists that what he was doing was "immoral, illegal, and sinful to invest the Lord's money."

What his "sinful acts did was earn a half million in interest just last year using money that came into the board but had not yet been spent.

"If we didn't do it, the banks would invest it," says Nelson. He'd like to see groups of churches get together with joint accounts, pooling their

money to earn hefty interest amounts. "I think there's enough idle checking account balances to support an entire additional Foreign Mission Board," he said.

Nelson feels his most significant contribution to the work of the convention board was in getting all the accounting work into computer. With approval of the business advisory committee ("always a pleasure to work with," he says) back in 1969 and since then, "we've got as good an accounting system as anybody in the country." The office runs a balance sheet every day, knowing constantly that bank and book balances are in agreement.

Financing Baptist work still has difficulties, he feels. "Central Hills (Baptist Retreat) still has to be finished; Gulfshore (Baptist Assem- (Continued on page 4)

Nelson— Churches pool

(Continued from page 3)

bly) needs additions; and in Christian education, something is finally being done with the endowment study," he says.

Nelson completed his 26 years with the board feeling better than he'd felt in years. Only six months after he began work with the board in 1958, he was hospitalized with angina. And his whole career he was saddled with that disability.

Then in 1980, the pain worsened. One spasm caused his admission to coronary care for a cleaning out of his carotid artery. More heart trouble and his physician told him he had a 50-50 chance of pulling through with a heart bypass operation. He considered not taking the surgery. "It was a tempting offer," Nelson says, after the doctor told him he would be dead by nightfall if he didn't have the surgery. But Nelson decided that if God wanted him to live, he'd better let the operation take place. "It made a new man out of me," he says, leaning forward on the sofa in his living room, taking another sip of coffee. "Temperamentally, I got more zip and zest." And for the first time, since the double bypass, he didn't have to take glycerine pills. "I'm living on borrowed time and I ought to make the best of it."

In retirement, Nelson is on retainer for the next three months as a business advisor to the board as the new business manager Jennings Orr gets situated. And Nelson says he is getting his name out that he is available to be organist for special events, "particularly senior citizens' groups." A concert level keyboard player, Nelson would also take interim and supply work in churches at piano and organ.

Looking back on his years with the board, Nelson notes, "You can fool the board, you can fool the executive secretary, you might even fool the auditors. But you can't fool God." Then he adds, "I have a good conscience about my stewardship."

—Off the Record—

"Good news! I've saved enough money for us to go to Europe," she said excitedly.

"Wonderful," responded her husband. "When do we leave?"

"As soon as I've saved enough for us to come back," explained the wife.

WMU annual meeting

(Continued from Page 3)

"The Denomination in Missions"

—Hymn of Praise—Congregation

—Special Music

—Speaking to the Challenges of Today in the Denomination—Carolyn Weatherford, executive director, WMU, SBC, Birmingham, Ala.; Robert Bingham, vice president, services section, Home Mission Board; Norman Godfrey, first vice president, Brotherhood Commission, Memphis, Tenn.; William O'Brien, executive vice president, Foreign Mission Board, Richmond, Va.; Morton Rose, vice president, church programs and services, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn.; June Whitlow, associate executive director, WMU, SBC.

—Partners in Prayer—Pat Lambright, president, New Mexico WMU, Melrose, N.M.

Sunday, June 10, 1984, Municipal Auditorium Arena

12:00—Career Women Luncheon, Radisson-Muehlebach Hotel (Advance ticket purchase necessary)

2:30—"Laborers Together"

—Musical Meditation: Lord, Speak to Me—John Hamilton

—Flag Processional and State Roll Call

—Praise and Adore: Congregational music, Donald C. Brown, chairman, music department, William Jewell College, Liberty, Mo.

—We Thank Thee, Lord—Bettye Anne Lovelady, vice president for administration, Mississippi Baptist Seminary, Jackson, Miss.

—President's Guests

—Working Together in the State Convention—James Griffith, executive director, executive committee of the Baptist Convention of the State of Georgia, Atlanta; Dorothy Pryor, executive director, Georgia WMU, Atlanta

—Hymn

—Lord, Speak Through Me—Sheri Richardson, US-2, Home Mission Board, First Baptist Church, Talladega, Ala.; C. W. Brown, church planter apprentice, church expansion division, Home Mission Board, Delta, Utah

—Special Music

—Laborers Together in Bangladesh—Tom and Gloria Thurman, missionaries, FMB, Bangladesh

—Musical Meditation: Lord, Speak to Me—John Hamilton

4:30—Adjournment

6:00—Church WMU directors dinner, Radisson-Muehlebach Hotel (Advance ticket purchase necessary)

Monday, June 11, 1984

7:00—Executive board breakfast for former and present board members, state staffs and WMU, SBC staffs, Radisson-Muehlebach Hotel (Advance ticket purchase necessary)

9:00—"Laborers Together"

—Musical Meditation: Lord, Speak to Me—John Hamilton

—Praise and Adore: Congregational music

—We Thank Thee, Lord—C.W. Brown

—Lord, Speak Through Me—Libby Kirkendall, missionary, FMB, Belgium

—Hymn

—President's Guests

—Executive director's report—Carolyn Weatherford; Lloyd Elder, president, Baptist Sunday School Board; William G. Tanner, president, Home Mission Board

—Hymn

—Business—Election of Officers

—Special Music

—"Laborers Together"—Lucy Wagner, missionary, FMB, Korea

—Musical Meditation: Lord, Speak to Me—John Hamilton

11:30—Adjournment

12:00—Ethnic Luncheon, Radisson-Muehlebach Hotel (Advance ticket purchase necessary)

2:00—"Laborers Together"

—Musical Meditation: Lord, Speak to Me—John Hamilton

—Praise and Adore: Congregational music

—We Thank Thee, Lord—Sheri Richardson

—Lord, Speak Through Me—Kay Hardage, Christian social ministries department, Home Mission Board, Columbia, Mo.; Bettye Anne Lovelady

—President's Guests

—Working Together in the Association—Betty and Walter Agnor, director of missions, Susquehanna Baptist Association, Salisbury, Md.

—Hymn

—Ethnics in Missions—Doris Diaz, language consultant for Hispanic work, WMU, SBC

—Special Music

—"Laborers Together at Home"—Allen Elston, missionary, language missions division, Home Mission Board, Warm Springs, Ore.

—Musical Meditation: Lord, Speak to Me—John Hamilton

3:55—Adjournment

4:00—Reception honoring Bobbie Sorrell, author of "Annie Armstrong: Dreamer in Action"

5:00—Associational WMU officers dinner, Radisson-Muehlebach Hotel (Advance ticket purchase necessary)

7:00—"Laborers Together"

—Musical Meditation: Lord, Speak to Me—John Hamilton

—Praise and Adore: Congregational music

—We Thank Thee, Lord—James Kirkendall, missionary, FMB, Belgium; Kay Hardage

—Lord, Speak Through Me—Indy Whitten, missionary, FMB, Spain

—President's Guests

—Focus on Mission Action—Ken Taylor, Christian social and special missions ministries, Blue River-Kansas City Baptist Association, Lee's Summit, Mo.

—Hymn

—Special Music

—Partners Through the Church—James T. Draper Jr., president, SBC, Euless, Texas

—Musical Meditation: Lord, Speak to Me—John Hamilton

8:45—Adjournment

Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

Cooperative Program Receipts

Month	1983	% of Total	1984	% of Total	Increase (Decrease)	% of Increase (Decrease)
January	\$1,217,037	8.2	\$1,348,472	8.2	\$ 131,435	10.8
February	1,335,282	8.9	1,467,381	8.9	132,099	9.9
March	1,284,572	8.6	1,315,201	8.0	30,629	2.4
April	1,277,838	8.6	1,145,917	7.0	(131,921)	(10.3)
TOTAL	\$5,114,729	34.3	\$5,276,971	32.1	\$ 162,242	3.2
Budget for 4 months			\$5,495,000			
Over (Under)			\$ (218,029)			
Total Budget	\$14,943,320		\$16,485,000		\$1,541,680	10.3

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Faces And Places

by anne washburn mcwilliams

"Her own works praise her"

Mama is afraid of thunderstorms, but she always is willing to listen as I unload on her the details of some emotional storm. I'm trying to weather. Bravery she exhibits as she lives alone in a country house, treasuring independence.

Mama is a cook of extraordinary talent, a jewel of a jam maker, an energetic doer, a frugal housekeeper, a mother of two, a grandmother of three, a gardener with a green thumb. Persistence is a part of her nature. If no one will plow her garden, she will dig it with a hoe, little by little, but she will not give up.

Mama is an olive-skinned brunette, young-looking for her 76 years (how she can always look so neat, I don't know), and she likes new dresses. Because she is thrifty—and sentimental—she is a collector and a keeper of everything. Nothing comes her way that might not again "come in handy some time." Even the smallest scrap of cloth might wind up in a

quilt.

Mama is a letter writer and a list maker. She sews and she sings, though not usually at the same time. Like the virtuous woman in Proverbs 31, she "watches for bargains" and "works far into the night." She is "never lazy." She "fears and reverences God" and is useful in her church as Bible teacher and promoter of missions.

She is vacillating, I admit — and finds it almost impossible to make up her mind, but once she does, she clings to her decision with determination and goes about her task with zest.

As the writer of Proverbs said, "A woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised"; "her own works praise her"; "her children arise up and call her blessed." I do call you "bless-ed," Mama, and thank the Lord for you! Thank you for giving me life and for giving me your love. Happy Mother's Day!

Clarke offering options for scheduling problems

By J. Dow Ford

Clarke College, a division of Mississippi College in Newton, has introduced a multi-option schedule that will allow students to attend college on a variety of daily schedules.

"It is possible for a student to take a full time college schedule and attend classes one, two, three, four, or five days per week. The option is completely in the hands of the students," says Ron Kirkland, academic dean of Clarke.

This freedom of choice approach is made possible by a new concept in class scheduling. The student would still spend the same number of hours in class, but the schedule is designed to compact these hours into a time frame more suitable to the non traditional student. "Few people outside the academic community realize that a full time college student is actually in class for only 12-15 hours per week," says Kirkland. "By offering a student several options as to when these 12-15 hours occur during the week, we hope to make our program more accessible to those people who would like to attend college but who would not be able to give up a job and spend five days per week in school."

At Clarke College, a student can attend classes just on Monday and complete his class work in only one day. A student may opt for a Tuesday and Thursday schedule or a Wednesday and Friday schedule and attend classes two days per week. If he chooses to do so, a student can attend classes three days per week on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday. It is possible to attend classes four days per week on Tuesday-Friday, and

students also have the option to attend classes all five days of the school week.

Clarke College is a fully credited liberal arts college owned by the Mississippi Baptist Convention. Clarke offers the associate in arts degree leading to a bachelor's degree in practically all academic areas and as a division of Mississippi College, Clarke also offers the full four year bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and Religion. For more information, contact the admissions office at 683-2061 or visit the campus on Highway 80 West in Newton.

(Dow Ford directs public relations at Clarke College).

Conciliators set training

Christian Conciliation Service of Central Mississippi will hold training sessions for participants, May 29 and 30. The service, housed at Mississippi College's School of Law, is a voluntary system for Christians to work out their legal differences without using the court system.

Cost of the training session is \$15. Laury Van Eck, national coordinator for Christian Conciliation Service, and Charlie Richards of the Christian Justice Center in Albuquerque, N.M., will be leaders.

For reservations and details contact the law school at 944-1950.

So absolutely good is truth, it never hurts the teller.—Robert Browning

Thursday, May 10, 1984

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 3

Letters to the Editor

Helps for damaged churches

Editor:

This letter is directed to all churches that were damaged in the recent storms across Mississippi. The staff at the Baptist Book Store, Jackson, have been praying for you during these hard times. We have been trying to find a way to help your church, staff, and members.

We are concerned as Christian brothers and sisters that the Lord's work continue with less pressure from the world. We would like to offer to damaged churches in need deferred terms on material you need that was damaged by the storms.

This offer includes any service we at the Baptist Book Stores have, i.e. hymnals, Vacation Bible School material, forms, etc.

Please contact me as soon as you take inventory of your needs.

Charles McGlocklin
Manager
Baptist Book Store
125 N. President
Jackson, MS 39201
354-3417

Joint committee issue

Editor:

It is assumed that there will be some attempt at the Southern Baptist Convention in Kansas City to handicap or destroy the work of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs. Some state conventions meeting last fall discussed the work of the Committee, and one convention passed a resolution asking the SBC to pass a resolution to defund the work of the Committee. If such an attempt is made let us hope that it will fail as it has in the past. Withholding financial support by the SBC would cripple if not destroy the work of the Committee. This would be tragic. Some of the opposition to the work of the Committee evidently stems from political as much as religious motivation.

Christians in general and Baptists in particular need the Joint Committee. It has two closely related major functions: the defense of religious liberty or freedom of religion and the separation of church and state. These two concepts are basic to our American way of life; and, so far as consistently supported and followed, they will contribute to a healthy church or churches in a healthy state.

As Baptists we should understand that we may not agree with every position taken or stated by the Committee on Public Affairs. Doubtless, most of us disagree from time to time with some action by our church or by denominational agencies and institutions. It is assumed that this does not mean that we will withdraw our support every time we disagree with some action or position. If your experience has been similar to mine, you have discovered at times that you were wrong and your church or denominational agency was right.

The BJC, as its name implies, is jointly supported by nine different Baptist groups or conventions. It would be unfortunate if the SBC, the largest of these groups, withdrew

support. If changes need to be made, let us seek to make them from within the structure. May our heavenly Father save Southern Baptists from developing a Messianic complex, which is one of the greatest dangers to a great denomination such as ours.

T. B. Maston
Retired Professor
Southwestern Seminary

Robison-Green seminars

Editor:

I would like to express my appreciation to you and your staff for your efforts to inform us of events in our denomination. One of your recent articles by Toby Druin of the Texas Baptist Standard, seemed to be somewhat biased and critical of James Robison, Milton Green, and staff.

I would like to urge and encourage you to carefully reconsider any unkind or damaging remarks about any Christian brother. I believe we need to support, love, and pray for each other.

My family and I have been greatly blessed through the ministry of these men and Jesus Christ has been glorified and magnified through their teachings and preachings.

Please, let's not give Satan a foothold here, by dividing the precious body of Christ, through unfounded remarks about any of God's children.

Susan Marks
Senatobia

Unfortunately, sooner or later it falls the lot of every newspaper to report something it had rather not.—Editor.

My love letter

Editor:

When I think of The Baptist Children's Village, I have so many warm thoughts that go through my mind. In telling friends I have come to know over the years that I have been married about "my home," I have described The Village as a "Heaven on Earth" because it was as close to heaven for me as anything I had ever known.

I remember times, in the 12 years I lived there such as these: Sitting on the hill, under a tree, behind the administration building, and telling a small boy, better known as "Tank" to

all his friends, about my life. He asked me about Jesus that day. I told him how good Jesus had always been to me, I witnessed to him without even realizing it, and the next Sunday "Tank" gave his life to Christ. I still cry those silly tears every time I think about that day because I am such a sentimentalist.

To me, The Baptist Children's Village, was security, peace, a nice warm bed each and every night, a complete night's sleep without being awakened by angry voices of a failing marriage and a home being torn apart; and even though our home was broken, even though we were separated from our parents, and one sister and brother, the three of us who lived at The Village know that we were loved and cared for as never before, and though we lost one sister 1 1/2 years ago, we know that we are still loved by all those who cared for us all those years.

This Mother's Day, when you are thinking about your donation to The Baptist Children's Village, remember all the children who need YOU. You provide the security, peace, education, clothing, food, and shelter for these children. The staff of caring, loving, people who are part of the daily lives of these children are there because they "love" them, because they want to help, and most of all, because they CARE.

Thank you, Village Staff, for caring for and loving me. I LOVE YOU!!
Linda Bolls Bouchillon
Durant

Editor for Illinois

Editor:

Illinois is looking for an editor with professional journalism training and experience for its state paper, the Illinois Baptist. Write me for a job description and application. Any person, to be considered, must complete our application form.

Ernest E. Mosley
Illinois Baptist State Association
Post Office Box 3486
Springfield, IL 62708

Honest bread is very well—it's the butter that makes the temptation.—Douglas Jerrold

O, it is excellent to have a giant's strength, but it is tyrannous to use it like a giant.—Shakespeare

Ernest, Robert, and Sarah
request the honour of your presence at the
50th Wedding Anniversary
Reception
for their parents
Annette and Carey Cox
on Sunday, the twentieth of May
from two-thirty until four-thirty o'clock
First Baptist Church
Brandon, Mississippi
Please, no gifts

Trio contrasts spectrum of Baptist concepts

By Stan Haste

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—A trio of Southern Baptist scholars put liberal, moderate, and fundamentalist traditions in biblical interpretation under the light of historical examination and concluded that while Southern Baptists uniformly love the Bible, they are divided over how to interpret it.

Speaking in a panel discussion at the joint Southern Baptist Historical Commission and Society meeting, Glenn Hinson, professor of religion at Wake Forest University; Claude Howe, professor of church history at New Orleans Seminary; and Richard Land, vice-president for academic affairs at Criswell Center for Biblical Studies in Dallas, addressed respectively the liberal, moderate, and fundamentalist traditions in Southern Baptist life between 1845 and 1945.

Land, a leader of the inerrantist wing in present-day Southern Baptist life, repeatedly sought to dispel what he called widely held misconceptions about fundamentalists in the denomination, declaring they are fundamentally unlike the followers of the late J. Frank Norris, who left the Southern Baptist Convention after disrupting it during the 1920's.

Parity

By demanding "parity" in Southern Baptist educational institutions, Land said, inerrantists prove they are "inclusive" fundamentalists, unlike Norris's brand of "exclusive" fundamentalism. Present-day inerrantists will not leave the Southern Baptist fold, he added, because they are loyal to the denomination.

Land also disclaimed responsibility for a recent statement by Paige Patterson, president of the Criswell Center, that if he were president of a Southern Baptist seminary, he would want all faculty members to be inerrantists. Land said he prefers "more parity by addition," an apparent reference to new positions to be created and to vacant faculty slots.

He renewed the oft-repeated inerrantist complaint that the inerrancy viewpoint is not adequately represented on Southern Baptist institutions' faculties as presently composed.

Land also protested treatment of the fundamentalist / inerrantist movement in the denominational press, saying, "it is at least as diverse as the non-inerrantist" camp rather than a monolithic movement.

In an exchange with Hinson over the importance of specific views of biblical interpretation to the average Southern Baptist, Land said Southern Baptists were relatively unaffected by the fundamentalist debate of the 1920s largely because they uniformly held to the inerrantist viewpoint that the Bible in its original autographs is without error in any respect.

Only after World War II and the rise of "pluralism" and "heterodoxy" were Southern Baptists

threatened by the liberal onslaught that hit other Protestant denominations earlier, he said.

But Hinson, who recently announced he will rejoin the faculty of Southern Seminary, Louisville, Ky., next fall, said his experience growing up in the Missouri Ozarks taught him that what matters for most Southern Baptists is not what they say they believe about the Bible, but whether they practice its teachings.

Orthopraxy, "not 'orthodoxy,'" Hinson declared, is what has always mattered most to Southern Baptists.

In his address on the liberal tradition and biblical interpretation in Southern Baptist history between 1845 and 1945, Hinson said one must search "far and wide" to find Southern Baptists fitting the category.

He defined liberal interpretation of the Bible as a "nearly uncritical and complete acceptance of critical historical methodology wherein the Bible would be treated like any other writing or collection of writings.

The only Southern Baptist biblical scholar who embraced liberalism, he went on, was Southern Seminary professor C. H. Toy, who left the faculty in 1879 after a stormy 10-year tenure and eventually became a Unitarian.

More prevalent during the period was the approach to liberalism of Southern Seminary President E. Y. Mullins who, Hinson said, "sought to learn from the liberal tradition without swallowing it whole." Hinson reminded his audience while Mullins wrote one of the 12 tracts known as The Fundamentalists, "he refused to defend the Bible as a book of science" and regarded it "a great mistake and contrary to Scripture to insist that the Bible teaches science."

"Flirting"

Apart from Toy, Hinson concluded, "Southern Baptists scarcely did more than flirt with the liberal tradition during their first hundred years."

Howe, a veteran church history professor at New Orleans Seminary, urged caution in categorizing historical figures as liberals, moderates, or fundamentalists because "the Moderate of 1845 is not quite the same as the one of 1890 or of 1930, and the same may be said of Fundamentalists and Liberals."

Given such definitional limitations, Howe declared nevertheless, "Liberals most often regard themselves as advocating change in or reversal of the status quo, Fundamentalists envision themselves as defenders, while Moderates contemplate some adjustment in light of current conditions."

In Southern Baptist life from 1845 to 1945, Howe asserted, "no doubt more (Southern Baptists) defended a Fundamentalist view than a Liberal one, but most maintained a high view of Scripture expressed in rather general terms that reflected moderation."

He continued: "Southern Baptists affirmed that the Bible is uniquely inspired but most hesitated or refused to regard one theory of inspiration as essential. All insisted the Bible is authoritative for faith and practice but few denied some flexibility in interpreting the faith or describing the practice. Southern Baptists asserted the Bible is the Word of God but recognized it was mediated through the words of men."

Five points

In his presentation, Land said whereas fundamentalism has often been over-simplified with "the so-called 'five points of Fundamentalism' (inerrancy of the Bible, virgin birth of Jesus, substitutionary atonement of Christ, bodily resurrection of Jesus, and physical second coming of Christ,) clearly the crucial issue was the inerrancy of the Scripture."

Although Southern Baptists were relatively unaffected by the liberal-fundamentalist battle in other major denominations in the 1920s, "the controversy... was present within their communion," he said.

After World War I, Land continued, fundamentalism changed "as the debate grew ever more acrimonious." The movement then split into two groups, one developing "an increasingly negative attitude toward scholarship, mainstream culture and social involvement." Among Southern Baptists, Norris, pastor of First Baptist Church, Fort Worth, Texas, from 1909 to 1952, "exemplified this type Fundamentalist." Norris's brand of fundamentalism, Land said, largely withdrew from the Southern Baptist Convention by 1945.

But, Land added, "another type of Fundamentalist persevered... espousing 'the fundamentals' without anti-intellectual and isolationist tendencies." Further, "this second type fundamentalism... designated by a lower case 'f,' existed both prior to The Fundamentals, and subsequently alongside the more strident Fundamentalism of Norris. The absolute veracity of scripture, occasionally described as inerrancy, was the touchstone of this fundamentalist tradition, within Southern Baptist ranks."

(Haste writes for the Baptist Joint Committee.)

S'eastern gets gift

WAKE FOREST, N. C. (BP)—Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N.C., has received a challenge gift of \$510,000 from the Cannon Charitable Trusts of Kannapolis, N.C.

The gift will go toward the development of a comprehensive student center, expected to cost more than \$2.5 million. This brings to more than \$1.8 million given for the project.

Beep, beep . . . Buses to shuttle messengers across Kansas City to SBC

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (BP)—Shuttle bus transportation will be provided for visitors and messengers to the annual Southern Baptist Convention meeting June 12-14 in Kansas City, Mo.

Bus transportation between some local motels and the convention site at H. Roe Bartle Hall will be available at 15 to 30 minute intervals from 8 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. each day.

Six routes will facilitate travel to Travelodge, Howard Johnson's downtown, central, north and east locations, Adam's Mark Kansas City, Drury Inn, Inn at Executive Park, Worlds of Fun Holiday Inn, Red Roof Inn's east and north locations, Alameda Plaza Hotel, The Raphael Hotel, Granada Royale Homotel, Hilton Plaza Inn, Westin Crown Center Hotel, Hyatt Regency at Crown Center, Ramada Inn's north and east locations, Budgetel Inn, Thrifty Scot Motel, Antioch Motor Inn, and Shoney's Inn.



Shuttle buses also will be provided to Midwestern Seminary.

"The shuttle bus service has been arranged at strategic points to provide the best possible service to our messengers," said Paul Lambert, chairman of shuttle bus service for

the local arrangements committee. "Obviously you can't cover an entire metropolitan area. Based on the projected hotel and motel accommodations, the six shuttle bus routes are designed to care for the messengers in a most adequate way."

According to Lambert, buses will be color coded according to route for passenger convenience. Lambert added the shuttle service would utilize "large buses, fully air-conditioned, and maintained in the highest standards."

Convention messengers and visitors are encouraged to use the shuttle bus service to avoid traffic congestion in the convention center parking garage and the downtown area. Due to renovation, 50 percent of the convention center parking area will not be available for parking.

Cost for the shuttle service is 50 cents per ride. Signs in hotel with shuttle service will list pick-up and delivery times. A shuttle bus supervisor and dispatcher will staff the shuttle bus booth in the convention center lobby throughout the convention for the convenience of the messengers.

McCall named asst. dean at Boyce Bible School

LOUISVILLE, Ky.—John G. McCall has been named assistant dean of Boyce Bible School, effective Aug. 1.



McCall

Retired from pastoral ministry, McCall was for 30 years pastor of the First Baptist Church, Vicksburg, Miss., where he presently holds the title, pastor emeritus.

He has been active in Southern Baptist denominational life having served on the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention as

well as the Radio and Television Commission. He is a former president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention and has served as vice president of the Board of Trustees for Mississippi College.

A native of Quitman, Ga., McCall is a graduate of Stetson University, DeLand, Fla. and earned the Th.M. and Th.D. degrees from Southern Seminary. As assistant dean at Boyce, McCall will work in recruitment and promotion as well as teach New Testament courses.

Boyce Bible School, a division of Southern Seminary, was founded in 1974 to provide ministerial training for persons without a college level degree.

HEAR FOUR TAPED MESSAGES ON KEY ISSUES FACING SOUTHERN BAPTISTS

- ETHICS by Foy Valentine
- DOCTRINE by Don Harbuck
- CONTROVERSY over FUNDAMENTALISM by Welton Gaddy
- EVANGELISM by John Havlik

Delivered to the First Baptist Church of Chattanooga, Tennessee in March 1984. Each set of four tapes costs \$10.00, payable in advance. Tapes sold only by the set. Circle number of KEY TAPES desired: 1 2 3 4 5 Total Remittance \$
Order KEY TAPES from First Baptist Church, 401 Gateway Avenue, Chattanooga, Tn. 37402; (615) 265-2257.

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McGregor elected Midwestern chairman

KANSAS CITY, MO.—Trustees of Midwestern Seminary here adopted the 1984-85 budget, elected officers and increased fees during their annual meeting April 9-10, 1984.



McGregor

Trustees elected Kermit McGregor of Clinton, Miss., as chairman. Also elected were Doyle Smith, Great Bend, Kan., first vice chairman, and Philip Lykes, Lakeland, Fla., second vice chairman. Jeanette Harlow, Oak Park, Ill., was re-elected secretary of the board and K. David Stone, Kansas City, Mo., was elected treasurer.

McGregor, pastor of Morrison Heights Church, Clinton, was elected to the seminary board of trustees in 1977. He has served as chairman of the instructional committee for the past four years. McGregor is a graduate of New Orleans Seminary and has received honorary doctor of divinity degrees from both William Carey College and Blue Mountain College in 1978. He formerly served as chairman of the education commission for the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

Trustees voted to accept the resignation of Thomas G. Smothers, professor of Old Testament and Hebrew effective July 31. Smothers has been elected to the faculty at Southern Seminary as professor of Old Testament Interpretation.

The trustees discussed the need for clarification of their October 1983 action in response to President Milton Ferguson's report regarding Profes-

sor G. Temp Sparkman. They approved a motion from the floor that as a board of trustees, they "did not affirm or disaffirm Professor Sparkman in his teaching or writing efforts, but that we simply affirmed our president and his actions as president."

The motion was adopted by a vote of 15 affirmative and 12 negative.

The October action referred to was the trustee approval of an instructional committee report which recommended "that the Midwestern Seminary trustees affirm the seminary president's report... concerning the question as to whether or not Dr. G. Temp Sparkman, professor of religious education and church administration at Midwestern, teaches or advocates universalism, the conclusion being that Professor Sparkman does not teach or advocate universalism but rather that he teaches in accordance with the seminary statement of faith with reference to this matter."

In other matters related to fiscal affairs, trustees:

—approved a total budget of \$3,127,691;

—approved a motion, in response to the current shortfall in SBC Cooperative Program Funds, requesting the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention to recommend a revision of the 1983/84 and 1984/85 SBC Cooperative Program operating budgets in order to facilitate the receipt of the 1983/84 and 1984/85 Capital Needs Funds;

—approved increases in the schedule of student fees including a raise in the matriculation fee to \$275 per semester for students in the master and associate degree programs.



Musicians minister

The group of Mississippi Baptist ministers of music were in the Northern Plains this week helping pioneer churches in their music program development. They worked in Montana, Wyoming, and North and South Dakota. The project is being coordinated by the Church Music Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, Perry Robinson, church music specialist. The men are Wayne Polk, FBC, Picayune; Danny Von Kanel, FBC, Macon; Harold Smith, Ruleville Church; Ryan Miley, Goodwater, Magee; Ben Blackwell, Rocky Creek, Lucedale; Art Goodsell, FBC, Florence; Bill Rice, Byram, Jackson; Harrel Wilcox, West Ellisville; Mike Chandler, Clarke-Venable, Decatur; George Puckett, FBC, Mendenhall; Ron Tullos, Oakland Heights, Meridian; Keith Bennett, Dixie, Hattiesburg; Don Nichols, FBC, Lucedale; Kenny Adams, FBC, Bruce; and Jimmy McCaleb, Southside, Jackson. Perry and Wanda Robinson are leading a retreat for musical leadership in the California convention near Fresno.

Baptist Women retreat to feature missionaries

Baptist Women will gather May 25-26 at Camp Garaywa, Clinton, for a statewide weekend retreat.

Theme for the retreat is "Being, Believing, Becoming."

Speakers and conference leaders include Ophelia Humphrey, from Amarillo, Texas, author of *Witnessing Women*; Jimmie Winter, Baptist Women Consultant, WMU, SBC; Marilyn Nabors, former missionary to Israel, now living in Starkville; and Frances Raley, missionary to Taiwan.

Music for the retreat will be directed by Myrna Loy Hedgepeth, music evangelist from Jackson.

Activities begin at 2:00 p.m. on Friday and conclude with lunch on Saturday. Cost for the weekend is \$15 per person. Deadline for registration is May 21.

Further information may be had by contacting Mrs. Ashley McCaleb, Baptist Women Consultant, WMU Department, Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205.

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Thursday, May 10, 1984

Missionaries on furlough

Missionaries on furlough in Mississippi are Tom and Gloria Thurman, Bangladesh, 416 Ford, Columbia 39429; Jerry and Bobbye Rankin, Southeast Asia, Pine Trails, Apt. M-5, Spring Ridge Road, Clinton, MS 39056; Rachel Dubard, Liberia, Rt. 1, Box 87, Carrollton, MS 38917; Charles and Indy Whitten, Equatorial Guinea, 207 S. Washington St., Starkville 39759; Steven and Minnie Hicks, Mexico, 407 N 38th Ave., Hattiesburg 39401; Harry and Frances Raley, Taiwan, 715 E. Northside Dr., Jackson 39206;

John and Nell Smith, Indonesia, c/o Mrs. Russell May Jr., 301 East Hillside, Jackson, 39209; Doug Kelum, Philippines, Tutwiler 38963.

Show questions gospel truth

LONDON (EP)—A television series produced by London Weekend Television that questions the authenticity of the Gospels has angered some Britons and sparked a lively debate among Britains clerics, scholars and theologians.

The first segment suggested that the writers of the Gospels invented incidents in the life of Jesus because they knew nothing about him, and that the virgin birth and Resurrection are myths borrowed from earlier religions.

Another proposition in the three part series was that the Gospels were "ghost-written" after the apostles died. The program cast doubt on the miracles attributed to Christ and said he might not have walked on water but instead on a sandbank.

A 41-member group of the Anglican state Church of England's Evangelical Alliance denounced the program.



Mrs. Humphrey

Mrs. Winter

Mississippi Baptist activities

May 18-19 Retreat for Mentally Retarded, Their Parents, & Teachers; Camp Garaywa; 5:30 p.m., 18th-4 p.m., 19th (CT)

'The Book' coming out with a novel format

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. (EP)—The Bible has an image problem that keeps people from reading it, the Christian Broadcasting Network be-

lieves. So a new version that reads like a novel is being test marketed.

The Christian network's answer is *The Book*—A paraphrased, modern-English version of the Bible that costs \$9.95.

Although the contents of *The Book* are similar to other paraphrased modern-English Bibles, its format is unique. It has large type, indexes and other easy-to-read features designed by CBN marketing executives. *The Book* has the appearance of a novel, with one column instead of two, introductions to chapters and other aids to make it easier to get through said spokesman.

CBN executives decided to market *The Book* after network polls showed that more than 100 million Americans do not read the Bible and do not think highly of people who do read it. Many of those polled disdained regular Bible readers as "conservative, Moral Majority-types, goody-two-shoes or fanatics," said the spokesman.

A stranger's eyes see clearest. Reade

Myers to go to Tennessee

David Myers, director of ministries for the Hinds-Madison Baptist Association in Jackson, has accepted the post of director of missions for the Hamilton County Baptist Association.



Myers

This is the metropolitan association for Chattanooga, Tenn. He will begin work there June 1. Myers and his wife, Brenda, both appointed home missionaries, have been in Jackson nine years. Both are native Mississippians, he from Brandon and she from Greenwood.

Committee nominates SBC agency trustees

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—Persons to serve as trustees of Southern Baptist Convention agencies have been nominated by the 1984 Committee on Boards, Commissions, and Standing Committees.

The report was released to Baptist Press April 25 by Charles G. Fuller, chairman, and pastor of First Baptist Church of Roanoke, Va. The release coincides with a bylaw adopted by messengers to the 1983 annual meeting of the SBC that the report be released through Baptist Press at least 45 days before the annual meeting.

The nominations are subject to messenger vote at the 1984 annual meeting in Kansas City, Mo., June 12-14, 1984.

Nominees for agencies and standing committees follow. All are clergy or denominational service related unless otherwise specified:

The report includes four new positions for the Alabama Baptist Convention. The ABC received one additional seat on the Executive Committee, Home Mission Board, Foreign Mission Board and Baptist Sunday School Board because the state convention topped the one-million member mark, according to statistics compiled from the 1983 annual church letters.

SOUTHERN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY (63 trustees): 16 nominations considered; eight renominated, eight new trustees.

New trustees include Ronald D. Stewart of Northside church, Lebanon, Ohio, replacing Roger Roberts of Fairborn, who moved (term to expire in 1985); Jess Moody of First church, Van Nuys, Calif., replacing J. Walker Campbell of La Habra, who resigned (term to expire in 1987); Gary W. Schwitz of Orchard Hills church, Novi, Mich., replacing Joyce Martin of Garden City, who moved (term to expire in 1987); George Steincross, of Second church, Liberty, Mo., replacing Harlan E. Spurgeon of Bolivar, who moved (full term).

Trustees replacing board members ineligible for second terms include W. Horace Benjamin of Berea First church, Greenville, S.C., replacing Maurice B. Morrow Jr., of Gaffney; John R. Michael, a coal company executive from Highview church, Louisville, Ky., replacing Homer Parker of Louisville, and Henry B. Huff, an attorney from Crescent Hill church, Louisville, Ky., replacing Joe D. Cross of Louisville.

A trustee from Louisiana to replace Kelly Fitzgerald of Baton Rouge, La., ineligible for renomination, will be named by the subcommittee in Kansas City, Mo.

Trustees renominated include Wilson C. Deese of Little Rock, Ark.; James L. Monroe of Fort Walton Beach, Fla.; William L. Wilson of Owensboro, Ky.; Cline L. Vice of Glen Burnie, Md.; James P. Craine

of Anderson, S.C.; Stephen W. Anderson of Memphis, Tenn.; Eldon F. Wood of Charlottesville, Va., and Richard O. Sutton of Topeka, Kansas.

SOUTHWESTERN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY (36 members): Nine nominations considered; three renominated and six new members.

New members include Delmar G. Morris of Calvary church, Seymour, Ind., replacing Calvin T. Harvell of Evansville, who moved (term to expire in 1987), and Bartis Harper of Tylertown church, Tylertown, Miss., replacing James M. Keith of First church, Gulfport, who moved (term to expire in 1988).

New members replacing members ineligible for renomination include Billy J. Tolbert of El Toro church, El Toro, Calif., replacing Floyd W. Strickland of Clearlake Oaks; Stephen G. Hyde of First church, Silver Spring, Md. (D.C. Convention), replacing C. Wade Freeman Jr., a government worker from Washington; Jim M. Bolton, a businessman from First church, Dallas, replacing Mrs. Gladys Sherman Lewis of Oklahoma City, and James T. Draper Jr., of First church, Euless, Texas, replacing W. M. Shamburger of Tyler.

Renominated for second terms were Earl E. (Gene) Hawkins, Topeka, Kansas; Lewis N. McDonald, Bel Air, Md., and C. W. Farrar of Landrum, S.C.

NEW ORLEANS BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY (36 trustees): seven nominations were considered; four were renominated and three new members.

New members include George F. Webb of First Southern church, Holbrook, Ariz., replacing James E. Carter of Phoenix; Charles Dampeer of First church, Fairfield, Ill., replacing Charles W. Boling of Pinckneyville, and J. Roy McComb of First church, Columbia, Miss., replacing Frank Gunn of Biloxi.

Renominations include Donald D. Jackson of Mariposa, Calif.; J. E. Moak of Moultrie, Ga.; Robert M. Jelks of Paris, Tenn., and James Davison of Ruston, La.

SOUTHEASTERN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY (30 trustees): six nominations considered; three renominated, three new members.

New members include Thomas M. Metts Jr., an executive with Prison Fellowship from Providence church, Raleigh, N.C., replacing Edgar M. Wyatt of Raleigh, and Eddie L. Sellers, a businessman from Burkemont church, Morganton, N.C., replacing David M. Britt of Raleigh.

A trustee from Georgia to replace Sam D. Allen of Savannah, Ga., who is ineligible for renomination, will be nominated by the subcommittee in Kansas City, Mo.

Renominated were Charles W. Midkiff of Greenville, Ky.; W. Lee Beaver Jr. of St. Louis, and C. Warren Pearson of Hobbs, N.M.

MIDWESTERN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY (35 trustees): nine nominations considered; five renominations, four new members.

New members include Timothy K. Norman of Ginter Park church, Richmond, Va., replacing M. Vernon Davis of Alexandria, who resigned (term to end in 1985); Jack D. Amis, a physician from First church, Hopkinsville, Ky., replacing Ronald W. Stone of Winchester, who moved (term to expire in 1986); Mrs. Carolyn D. Snider, housewife from First church, Pagosa Springs, Colo., replacing Ronald L. Thayer of Security, who moved.

James E. Graves, a public school administrator from Red Bridge church, Kansas City, Mo., replaces Edward I. Van Deusen of Raytown, who is ineligible for renomination.

Renominated to second terms are Russell R. Reid Jr., Smithburg, Md.; James W. Jones, Detroit, Mich.; T. Robert Mullinax of Raleigh, N.C.; C. Eugene Dempsey of Everett, Wash., and J. W. Simmons of Windsor, Mo.

GOLDEN GATE BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY (35 members): eight nominations considered; one renominated, seven new members.

New members include Mrs. David Butler, a pastor's wife from Sevier Heights church, Knoxville, Tenn., replacing Mrs. Grady Cothen of Nashville, who moved (term to expire in 1986); Lawrence H. Langford of Highland Avenue church, Cincinnati, replacing L. Frank Welch of Dayton, who moved (term to expire in 1988), and Mrs. Sandra Casteel, an attorney's wife from First church, Fort Lauderdale, Fla., replacing Mrs. Doyle E. Carlton Jr., of Wauchula, who declined to serve a second term.

New members replacing members ineligible for renomination are Calvin Kelly of Ridgecrest church, Montgomery, Ala., replacing John R. Riddle of Birmingham; Calvin L. Capps of Southside church, Greensboro, N.C., replacing William T. Mills of Hickory; Herman E. Wooten, director of missions of the Orange County Baptist Association, Anaheim, Calif., replacing Cristobal M. Dona of San Jose; and Robert D. Lewis of Temple church, Fairfield, Calif., replacing Sheldon H. Russell of Portersfield.

Renominated was O. M. Kington of First church, Madisonville, Ky.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE (15 members, eight of whom serve by virtue of office as SBC administrators): two persons considered, two new members. The Committee

on Boards also selected the PAC chairman.

New members are Don Turner, editor of the Rocky Mountain Baptist, newsjournal of the Colorado Baptist General Convention, and member of Trinity church, Aurora, Colo., replacing R. G. (Gene) Puckett, Raleigh, N.C., and Jim I. Ginnings, independent oil producer and chairman of deacons at First church, Wichita Falls, Texas, replacing Donald P. Aiesi, Greenville, S.C.

The committee also re-elected Samuel T. Currin, U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of North Carolina, and member of Hays-Barton church, Raleigh, to a second term as chairman.

DENOMINATIONAL CALENDAR COMMITTEE (6 members): two persons considered; two new members were appointed and the Committee on Boards selected the committee chairman.

New members are Fred Powell of Pisgah church, Excelsior Springs, Mo., replacing Russell Bush of Columbia, Miss., and James C. Waits of First church, Laurel, Miss., replacing William H. Cook of Bartlesville, Okla.

Mrs. Don (Skeet) Workman of Lubbock, Texas, was named chairman.

COMMITTEE ON ORDER OF BUSINESS (7 members, including the SBC President): two persons were considered; two new members are named and the committee chairman also was selected.

New members are Stan Coffey of First church, Albuquerque, N.M., replacing Charles G. Fuller of Roanoke, Va., and Jay Strack of Riverside church, Fort Myers, Fla., replacing C. Bruce McIver of Dallas, Texas.

Morris H. Chapman of First church, Wichita Falls, Texas, was named chairman.

Other nominations will be printed next week.

Stop fighting

(Continued from page 2)

Christian son of atheist Madalyn Murray O'Hair, says Mrs. O'Hair keeps the one going on religious broadcasting to embarrass Christians. Be that as it may, the religious broadcasting petitions have continue to circulate on a regular basis for the past eight or nine years; and now the one on **Modern People News** is showing up all over the state. But there is no basis in fact for either one of them.

The experience at **Modern People News**, however, does illustrate the power of public opinion. The news paper had intended to produce such a movie until it felt the weight of public opinion. It does pay to stay informed and let our voices be heard. But when the battle is won, we need to stop fighting.

Golden Gate will celebrate 40th year

KANSAS CITY, Missouri—Golden Gate Seminary is celebrating its 40th anniversary this year and part of the festivities will include a special luncheon and program to be held during the 127th session of the Southern Baptist Convention here in June.

The Golden Gate Anniversary Jubilee will be held Wednesday, June 13, at 12:30 p.m. in the Trianon Ballroom of the Radisson Muehlebach Hotel adjacent to the Roe Bartle Convention Center where the SBC will meet.

Highlights of the luncheon program will include remarks by Harold K. Graves and William M. Pinson, Jr., former presidents of the seminary, and Frank Pollard, current president. In addition, Southern Baptist Convention President Jimmy Draper will bring greetings.

Advance tickets for the event are \$13 per person and should be ordered before June 1 by contacting The Alumni Association, Golden Gate Seminary, Strawberry Point, Mill Valley, California 94941, (415) 388-8080. Tickets purchased at the door or after June 1 will cost \$14 each.

Peach Creek will celebrate 135th; needs information

Peach Creek Church, Panola County, will celebrate its 135th anniversary on May 27. Henning Andrews of Houlika, former pastor, will bring the morning message. Music will be under direction of the minister of music, Herbert Petermann, assisted by Sherrye J. Pattridge, pianist, and Anne Fitts, organist. Charles F. Page is the pastor.

Dinner on the grounds will be followed by an afternoon service that will include a memorial service and memory time.

Mrs. Wallace Parnell, member of the Historical Committee, states, "We would appreciate any information concerning former pastors: G. B. Waldrup, 1851-52; M. H. Renfro, 1853; Isaac S. Parker, 1855; W. F. Parker, 1856; N. P. Johnson, 1858; E. B. Eakin, 1859; H. J. Smith, 1865-1870." Her address is Star Route, Box 66, Sardis, Miss. 38666.

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(305) 941-6083

Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference Roe Bartle Hall, Kansas City, June 10-11

Text: Col. 2:2—"That their hearts may be encouraged having been knit together in love."

June 10, 1984

Sunday Evening

6:30—Choral Music—First Baptist Church Choir and Orchestra, Atlanta
6:50—Welcome and Prayer—Charles Stanley, president, pastor of First Baptist Church, Atlanta

7:00—Praise

7:05—Greetings From The President—James T. Draper Jr., Southern Baptist Convention president, pastor of First Baptist Church, Euless, Texas

7:15—Music Medley—John McKay, music evangelist, Fort Worth, Texas

7:25—"Encouraging The Servant Of God"—Bailey Smith, pastor, First Southern Baptist Church, Del City, Okla.

8:05—Praise, Prayer and Offering—First Baptist (Atlanta) Choir and Orchestra

8:20—Solo—Cheryl Prewitt Blackwood, singer, Nashville, Tenn.

8:30—"Encouraging the Servant of God to Stand in the Gap"—Franky Schaeffer, vice president, Schaeffer V Productions, Los Gatos, Calif. Schaeffer lives in Boston and is a member of a non-denominational church at Gordon College

—Benediction

June 11, 1984

Monday Morning

8:45—Choral Music—First Baptist (Atlanta) Choir and Orchestra

9:00—Praise and Prayer

9:05—Solo—Joe Atkinson, music evangelist, Arlington, Texas

9:10—"Encouraging the Servant of God in Personal Evangelism"—Roy Fish, professor of evangelism, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas

9:45—Praise

9:50—Duet—Jerry Ables, minister of music, and Pam Puckett, soloist, Pisgah Baptist Church, Spartanburg, S.C.

9:55—"Encouraging the Servant of God in Church Growth"—Ron Lewis, consultant for Church Growth Designs, Nashville, Tenn.

10:30—Prayer, Praise and Offering—Quartet—Jay and Karen McKay; Bill and Laurie Cole, gospel singers, Fort Worth, Texas.

10:45—"Revival With Effect"—Jerry Drace, evangelist, Jacksonville, Fla.

10:50—Solo—Ellen Roweton, soloist, Bolivar, Mo.

10:55—"Encouraging the Servant of God in Handling Stress"—Charles Lowery, director of counseling services, First Baptist Church, Dallas

—Benediction

Monday Afternoon

1:15—Choral Music—First Baptist (Atlanta) Choir and Orchestra

1:30—Praise and Prayer

1:35—Solo—D. Dee Click, contemporary Christian artist, Nashville, Tenn.

1:40—"Encouraging the Servant of God in His Finances"—Larry Burkett, president, Christian Financial Concepts, Dahlgonega, Ga.

2:15—Praise

2:20—Solo—Ralph Freeman, sacred music vocalist, Atlanta

2:25—"Encouraging the Servant of God to Reach His Goals"—O.S. Hawkins, pastor, First Baptist Church, Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

3:00—Praise, Prayer and Offering—Murk Family Singers, Wheaton, Ill.

3:15—Election of Officers

3:30—Solo—Frank Boggs, recording artist, Atlanta

3:40—"Encouraging the Servant of God in His Personal Discipline"—Stephen Olford, president of Encounter Ministries, Wheaton, Ill. Olford is a life member of Calvary Baptist Church, an independent church in New York.

—Benediction

Monday Evening

6:30—Choral Music—First Baptist (Atlanta) Choir and Orchestra

6:55—Praise and Prayer

7:00—Solo—Nancy Steinmann, Christian concert artist, Atlanta

7:05—"Encouraging the Servant of God in His Moral Standards"—Zig Ziglar, board chairman, Zig Ziglar Corp., motivational speaker, Dallas

7:40—Praise

7:45—Solo—Joeff Benward, artist in residence, Second Baptist Church, Houston

7:50—"Encouraging the Servant of God in His Family Life"—Edwin Young, pastor, Second Baptist Church, Houston

8:25—Praise, Prayer and Offering, First Baptist (Atlanta) Choir and Orchestra

8:40—Music Medley—Doug Oldham, singer, Thousand Oaks, Calif.

8:55—"Encouraging the Servant of God in His Inner Healing"—David Seamands, pastor, Wilmore United Methodist Church, Wilmore, Ky.

—Introduction of Officers

—Benediction

Pastors' Conference Officers for 1983-84:

President—Charles F. Stanley, First Baptist Church, Atlanta

Vice President—Fred Lowery—First Baptist Church, Bossier City, La.

Secretary-Treasurer—Fred Powell—Pisgah Baptist Church, Excelsior Springs, Mo.



Tuten

Gandy

Thompson

Phillips

Joe Tuten will speak at MC commencement

Joe H. Tuten, pastor of Calvary Church, Jackson, and chairman of the Christian Education Commission, Mississippi Baptist Convention, will be featured speaker at the largest Mississippi College spring commencement in history, scheduled for Saturday, May 19, at 2 p.m. in the A. E. Wood Coliseum on campus.

Tuten, pastor in Mississippi since 1955, is a graduate of Furman University and holds bachelor of divinity and doctor of theology degrees from New Orleans Seminary. He received an honorary doctorate from William Carey College in 1975.

He will address a class composed of 520 graduates, the largest ever for a spring commencement, and the first in modern times to receive degrees on a Saturday. Commencement has traditionally been held on Sunday afternoons.

Of the 520 graduates, 377 will be receiving undergraduate degrees, 79 graduate degrees, four the education specialist degree, and 60 the doctor of jurisprudence degree from the School of Law. Lewis Nobles, president of the College, assisted by the various vice-presidents or dean of the several schools, will confer the degrees and present the diplomas.

Tuten and three alumni of the col-

lege, will receive honorary doctorate degrees. Tuten will receive the doctor of divinity degree, while the doctor of laws degree will be bestowed upon Robert Gandy of Jackson, a retired businessman and former member of the college's Board of Trustees; Charles E. Thompson of McAllen, Tex., an attorney at law and college benefactor; and Donald E. Phillips of Northbrook, Ill., corporate vice-president of International Minerals and Chemical Corporation.

Commencement weekend will get underway on Friday, May 18, with the 1934 class meeting for its 50th anniversary reunion at 11 a.m. in the Hall of Fame Room of the B. C. Rogers Student Center. The Class of 1924 will meet at 1 p.m. in the Gold Room for a reunion, followed by a reception for the Fifty-Year Club at the home of President Nobles at 4 p.m. and the annual Fifty-Year Club banquet at 6 p.m. in the college cafeteria.

The 1984 class will meet for the traditional senior breakfast at 8 a.m. on Saturday in the cafeteria, followed by rehearsal at 10 a.m., a pinning ceremony for the School of Nursing at 11 a.m., and a School of Law luncheon. Activities will climax with commencement exercises at 2 p.m. in the Coliseum.

Woman's Committee to honor Rosalynn Carter

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP)—Former First Lady Rosalynn Carter has been named recipient of the first Distinguished Christian Woman Award by the Woman's Committee of Southern Seminary.

Carter, an active partner in her husband Jimmy's political career, will be honored officially during Southern Seminary's first national conference for women, Oct. 15-16.

According to Betty McGary Pearce, conference and award coordinator for the Woman's Committee, the award has been established to annually recognize women making outstanding achievements benefiting humanity and reflecting the teachings of Jesus Christ.

The selection committee chose Carter because of her international reputation as a committed Christian and a devoted church and family woman, Pearce said. The two-day conference for men and women also will feature plenary and workshop sessions on "The Changing Roles of Women in Church and Society."

Plenary speakers include the award recipient; Roy L. Honeycutt, president, Southern Seminary;

Catherine Allen, associate director, Woman's Missionary Union; Sarah F. Anders, Walker Chair of Sociology, Louisiana College; Andy Lester, professor of psychology of religion, Southern Seminary; Evelyn Stagg, writer and frequent speaker; and Bill Leonard, associate professor of church history, Southern Seminary.

Pearce added 14 workshops will be offered during the event, along with the plenary sessions.

Orman and Elizabeth Gwynn conducted a street preaching service in Cristalandia, Brazil with sheep, three drunks, and a flock of chickens all around. One drunk accepted Christ, however, and shocked local authorities by never becoming drunk again. Police wanted to know what power had changed the drunk who had been arrested every night for years. Joao, the former drunk, has since won his family and neighbors to Christ.—Church Administration.

Keep your happy emotions in good working order. It will keep you young.

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 9
Thursday, May 10, 1984

Work goes on after storms

Joe Young, pastor of Paul Church, Scobey, reported to the Baptist Record on some items related to the Easter tornadoes. Volunteers from Paynes and Cascilla, and Corinth Churches in Tallahatchie, worked to clean up after the tornado hit the Charleston Community. Paul Church was still providing storage space in its educational building and its WMU served about 320 meals the week after Easter.

W. C. Miller, a deacon in the Cascilla Church, had his house destroyed. Matthew Greer, pastor of Corinth Church, had his house damaged by fallen trees.

Lakeside Assembly, Tallahatchie Associational campground, missed twin tornadoes by a scant distance.

One tornado destroyed the Providence Church, a black church in the Murphysboro Community in Tallahatchie.

One black man, whose mobile home was destroyed, saw the Mississippi Baptist volunteers out helping and volunteered four stout creosote posts for a woman whose front porch was about to cave in from the twister.

Also, said Young, churches in Arkansas that Tallahatchie and Riverside Baptists had helped in flooding a couple of years ago, sent \$1,000 for relief.

Anita Bryant ready to resurrect her career

OKLAHOMA CITY (EP)—Singer Anita Bryant, who retired from the limelight after campaigning against homosexual rights in Florida, says her prayers tell her she's ready to resurrect her entertainment career. Miss Bryant, 43, has spent four years "living quietly" and "letting the healing take place" after her fight against a gay rights ordinance and her 1980 divorce from Bob Green.

"We all make mistakes. I've grown a lot. I'm ready to press forward," Miss Bryant told The Daily Oklahoman and Times in Oklahoma City. She added that she would begin to seek at least two bookings a month at conventions, concerts, state fairs or on television.

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Mass distribution Scriptures to be available by June 1

By Linda Lawson

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—With an initial printing of one million New Testaments for mass distribution sold out and orders still coming in, Baptist Sunday School Board officials announced plans to have one million more copies available by June 1 through Baptist Book Stores.

"The enthusiastic response of our Baptist people to mass Scripture distributions has necessitated our developing a fast track for printing and distributing inexpensive, at-cost New Testaments to meet the needs of churches," said Lloyd Elder, BSSB president.

The first printing of marked New Testaments was a custom order by the Baptist General Convention of Texas for use April 8 in a statewide Scripture Distribution/Prospect Discovery Sunday. This was the largest order ever received by the board's Holman Bible Publishing division for a single product.

By March 31, a total of 1,055,162 copies had been sold to Texas churches and Holman had returned orders for 53,000 copies which could not be filled.

Johnnie Godwin, Holman division director, said, in the meantime,

churches in six other states sought to place orders which also could not be filled.

The Great Commission New Testaments, which will be available June 1, will be marked editions for witnessing and are similar to the Texas edition, Godwin said. They will be available in the King James Version, the New American Standard Version and the Nueva Vida Version (Spanish).

"Costs include paper, printing, binding, assembling, warehousing, shipping, royalties on newer translations and other costs involved in such large production efforts," said Godwin. "Although paper, printing and other costs will continue to go up, our commitment is to make available inexpensive, at-cost Scriptures to the churches."

The one million Great Commission New Testaments will require 586,000 pounds of paper which will be delivered from Alabama to a Nashville printing firm in 15 trailer loads.

The New Testaments may be ordered through Baptist Book Stores and Mail Order Centers. Orders of 2,500 or more copies will cost 37 1/2 cents each plus shipping. Orders of

1,000 to 2,499 copies will cost 40 cents each plus shipping.

Purchases of 999 copies or less may be made at slightly higher prices directly from the book stores.

Bill Graham, director of the book store division, said the temporary distribution system through Baptist Book Stores and Mail Order Centers was set up "to make these New Testaments available as quickly as possible. We have worked with Holman to sell these at prices that are at cost or below," he said.

Mass Scripture distribution editions will be listed on the Church Literature Order Form beginning April 1985.

Two other major mass Scripture distribution projects are in process, Godwin said.

The Missouri Baptist Convention has ordered 500,000 customized New Testaments from Holman for a statewide project. Also, Holman will publish five million New Testaments and one million Scripture portions for the 1985 Evangelistic People Search and Prospect Cultivation and Scripture Distribution being planned for the state conventions with the Home Mission Board and the Sunday School Board as preparation for the 1986 Good News America revival.

While Bible publishing is already an assignment of the Southern Baptist Convention to the Sunday School Board, Elder said a proposal that Bible publishing be made a separate program of work of the board will magnify the assignment.

The proposal, which would increase the number of program assignments of the board to 17, was approved by the BSSB trustees Feb. 2 and by the members of the SBC Executive Committee Feb. 21. It will be presented for consideration of the messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention in Kansas City, Mo., in June.

(Linda Lawson writes for the Sunday School Board.)

NBC special describes making of ACTS network

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP)—The National Broadcasting Company network will feature a one-hour documentary on the American Christian Television System (ACTS) which the producer describes as "almost awesome" in its plans for satellite communications.

The system is sponsored by the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission. The NBC program is scheduled for May 20 (1 p.m., EDT) but time broadcast may vary in local areas.

Stan Lozack, producer and director of the program entitled, "ACTS:

A TV Partnership," said the documentary will show what "goes into the making of a TV network." He describes the system as "the most ambitious telecommunications effort ever attempted by a private group. He said there was nothing special about such basics as satellite, cable, low-power stations, "but it's the scope of this thing that is almost awesome."

Jimmy R. Allen, president of both the Radio and Television Commission and the American Christian Television System, was among several executives interviewed for the program.

Court to hear arguments for convicted murderer

WASHINGTON (BP)—In a rare decision, the U.S. Supreme Court has agreed to hear arguments for Glen Burton Ake, convicted murderer of Oklahoma pastor Richard Douglass and his wife, Marilyn.

Ake was convicted June 1980 of killing the Douglasses in their rural home in October 1979 by shooting them in the back after binding and gagging them.

Two Douglass children, Brooks, then 16, and Leslie, 13, were critically wounded.

Ake's lawyers want the court to determine if he had a right to expert psychiatric help to determine his mental condition at the time of the murders; and to determine if the state violated his constitutional rights by having him sedated during his trial.

Although the Supreme Court is asked to hear about 3,000 criminal cases each year, it usually decides only about a dozen, those offering new constitutional questions worth considering.

If the court finds Ake was denied proper examination, it means he will have a new trial, not that he will be released from prison where he is under two sentences of death, and

two 500-year prison terms.

The court will hear arguments on the case sometime after it convenes in October, which means it will be a year before a decision is reached.

In April 1980, Ake was found insane and committed to a mental institution. Seven weeks later, he was decided competent to stand trial.

At that time, his lawyers asked for a psychiatric examination to determine his mental state at the time of the murders. Their request was denied and he was convicted in June.

Oklahoma is one of 10 states that routinely refuses such examination for indigents.

The 14th Amendment, which Ake's lawyers cite, guarantees due process of law and equal protection under the law. The Supreme Court must decide if Ake was denied equal protection because he could not pay for such psychiatric examination.

Its decision will have the effect of telling states whether or not they are obligated to provide the examination.

Ake's lawyers say now that Ake was unable to help them prepare his defense because he was in a "zombie-like" trance from the sedation.

Oklahoma lawyers cite Ake's 44-page confession "in which he lucidly set forth the events before, during and subsequent to" the murders, as proof of his mental stability at the time of the murders.

The court's decision will not involve Ake's accomplice, Steven Hatch, who remains in prison under sentence of death. Ake was the gunman.

The old order changeth, yielding place to new.—Tennyson

Pre-SBC meet to stress women's role in ministry

By Michael Tutterow

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (BP)—For the second year, Southern Baptist Women in ministry will sponsor a pre-Southern Baptist Convention meeting to stress the role of women in ministry within the SBC.

The Women in Ministry, SBC, conference, slated for June 9-10, 1984, at the Radisson-Muehlebach Hotel in Kansas City, is one of several meetings to be held prior to the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 12-14, at Roe H. Bartle Hall in the Kansas City Convention Center.

The conference is designed for women who, out of a sense of God's call, minister professionally in a local church in either a paid or volunteer staff position, and women who, because of skills and vocational calling, are employed by institutions, agencies, and churches of the SBC, said Anne Neil, emeritus missionary of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board and pastoral counselor at Southeastern Seminary, Wake Forest, N.C.

Neil is chairperson of the Women in Ministry, SBC, steering committee which planned this year's meeting. The conference also is open to both men and women who share an interest and concern for Women in Ministry, Neil said.

Participants will explore the theme, "Exercising Our Gifts," she added, while also building support for women in ministry and creating awareness within the SBC of women in ministry. Promoting more understanding between men and women in

ministry is also a goal of the conference, she said.

She pointed out Southern Baptist male ministers have had a variety of support groups but Women in Ministry is the first organization for professional women ministers. As Southern Baptist women have entered into professional ministry roles, they have been isolated from others who share and understand their experiences, said Neil.

"Women who are called to ministry want to fellowship together, share common concerns, build support and clarify issues and directions," explained Betty Pierce, a Louisville, Ky., teacher and co-editor of FOLIO, a newsletter for women in ministry. "We are concerned that the gifts of women in ministry be recognized and their callings (to minister) be affirmed."

Conference speakers include Lynda Weaver-Williams, co-pastor of Goshen Baptist Church in Goshen, Ky.; Elizabeth Barnes, Ph.D. candidate from Duke University, Raleigh, N.C.; and Susan Lockwood Wright, pastor of Cornell Avenue Baptist Church in Chicago, Ill.

Wright was under fire from many Chicago Baptists because she accepted the pastorate of the Cornell Avenue church. A motion to disfellowship the church from the Chicago Metropolitan Baptist Association was defeated in February by a vote of 210-113.

(Michael Tutterow writes for the Home Mission Board.)

Association emphasis week

(Continued from page 2)

sociation for the use of the local churches. Many associations will be giving emphasis to the study of the new book, **A Baptist Association: Churches on Mission Together**, authored by J. C. Bradley, Director of Associational Administration for the Home Mission Board, which interprets to its readers the work of the association. We could list many other ways that Associational Emphasis Week is being observed. It is good to see this emphasis gaining prominence.

Material has been provided for the local pastors in our state so that they might take advantage of this week to recognize associational workers who are members in their churches and/or to recognize the associational leadership. The pastor may choose through the leadership of the Lord to

speak on the theme of "Churches Reaching All Peoples" indicating that the association is one way that this is being accomplished.

Mississippi is blessed by having many fine directors of missions and staff persons who are serving the 75 associations in the most effective manner. The most important people in each association are the volunteers who lead in the various ministries and programs. We take this opportunity to express our appreciation to them. It is hoped that the purpose of this week, which was stated earlier, will be accomplished not only in the associations but in the local churches and in the lives of all Mississippi Baptists.

J. Ray Grissett is associational administration consultant for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

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Carey to award doctorates at May commencement

Thursday, May 10, 1984

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 11

Three Mississippians will be honored at William Carey College's commencement on May 12, when the college awards them honorary doctorates.



Charles Pickering will receive the honorary Doctor of Laws degree and will be the commencement speaker at the 3 p.m. service. Mrs. Elizabeth Thompson Cooper will be awarded the Doctor of Humanities degree and Mrs. Marjorie Rowden Kelly will be presented the Doctor of Humane Letters degree.

Pickering, president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, is attorney, dairy farmer, businessman, and former state senator. He is now Chairman of the Jones County Economic Development Authority. A member of First Baptist Church, Laurel, he has served as chairman of deacons and as Sunday School director and teacher.

Before being elected president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention he was president of the Convention Board, chairman of the Executive Committee, and served three times as parliamentarian of the state Baptist convention. He is married to the former Margaret Ann Thomas of El-lisville and they have four children.



Cooper

Kelly

Elizabeth Thompson Cooper, a graduate of Agnes Scott College, is well-known in Mississippi and South-

ern Baptist Convention circles for her missionary efforts, along with her husband, Owen Cooper, Mississippi industrialist and former president of the Southern Baptist Convention. Mrs. Cooper has traveled extensively, visiting Southern Baptist churches in most states of the U.S. and visiting mission points on all continents where Southern Baptists have work.

She is a former Baptist Student Union director at Louisiana Tech University and a former x-ray technician at Georgia Baptist Hospital. Mrs. Cooper is a member of First Baptist Church, Yazoo City, where she has served in many capacities. She has served as a member of the Board of Trustees of William Carey College. She is the mother of five children and grandmother of nine.

Marjorie Rowden Kelly, former Hattiesburg resident, served for 16 years as vice president for college relations and professor of religion at William Carey College. A writer, former missionary, and lecturer, Mrs. Kelly now makes her home in Jackson and is the wife of Earl Kelly, executive secretary-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

A graduate of Agnes Scott College and New Orleans Seminary, she served as a Southern Baptist missionary in Israel for eight years. She is a free-lance writer with numerous features and articles appearing in Southern Baptist publications and is the author of three books. She was the first woman to receive the New Orleans Baptist Seminary Faculty Alumnus of the Year Award. In June of this year, she will be installed during the annual Southern Baptist Convention as president of the Ministers' Wives Association of the SBC and is currently serving on the Board of Development of William Carey College. She is the mother of four children.



The Young Adult Church Training Class at Central, Brandon: row 1—Donnie Davis, Donald McAlpin, Mike Jester; row 2—Morris Griffing, Lynn Bone, Rodney Cradcock, Darryl Bone, Tommy Morgan, Brain Morrow; row 3—Lisa R. Bone, Nancy Griffing, Joan Morehouse, Terry McAlpin, Teresa Murphy, Sheri Morgan, Leesa Ingram, Mrs. Lucille Bear.



The RAs and Leaders at Central, Brandon: row 1—Bill Hoffa, Chris Bowman, Paul Wilder, Chris Wilder, Joey Bowman, row 2—Rodney Cradcock, David Phillips, Michael Pannell, Donnie Davis, Darryl Bone, Donald McAlpin, row 3—Brain Morrow, James Bowman, Lynn Bone.

Home missions begins at home for Central Church in Brandon

By Joan Morehouse and Dianne Phillips

Everyone at Central Church, Brandon, has been involved in meeting our Annie Armstrong Easter Offering goal of \$250, which more than doubled by April 14.

"For a small, young rural church," says pastor J. T. Pannell, "our WMU and RA organizations have had a vital impact on our missions involvement."

The RA counselors made a beautiful wooden centerpiece of the United state; then the Crusaders and Pioneers cut the rods for the flags, attached them and placed them on the centerpiece, one for each \$5 raised toward our goal.

The Acteens sponsored a Bike-a-Thon, with the RAs participating also. Some of our Baptist Women and Brotherhood were challenged to walk rather than ride the 10 miles, and all together brought in contributions of \$395.

The efforts put forth in behalf of our home missions emphasis toward the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering, have made it possible for us to exceed our goal. Our contribution to home missions through this special offering is now \$575.02.

All the flags have been placed in our centerpiece and the bikers and walkers have recuperated from sore muscles, but our concern for Home Missions doesn't end there.

It's true that Home Missions begins at home, for our Young Adult Class lives and breathes this.

Back in October of 1983, the Young Adult Class began making plans to purchase a church bus. They saw the need to reach others for the Lord and were determined to be completely responsible for the financial and manual labors needed to do this work. Mrs. Lucille Bear, the Church Training teacher, was very excited and greatly impressed with the class

of their age in years and Christianity so dedicated to the Lord's work. The young man who was truly instrumental from start to finish was Tommy Morgan. He found the bus, made the arrangements, collected donations and supplies, and always had the faith that would take them through the rough times.

The Young Adult Class gave the 1972 International bus to the church on March 18, which was the last day of our week of Home Mission Study, completely free of all debts.

The problem of not having a bus driver did not last long. God had already chosen his man. W. O. Mayes came forward asking if he could serve in that capacity. The Young Adult Class was delighted. Helping with the success of the bus ministry is Mr. Mayes' family, wife, Joy, daughter, Susanne, and son, William. They are all faithful riders of the bus on the regular routes, Sunday mornings and nights, and Wednesday nights.

We have found that a bus ministry is a wonderful experience and a way to strengthen, grow, and encourage others to work for the Lord.

(Joan Morehouse is secretary at Central Church; Dianne Phillips is WMU director.)

Consultant will start black churches

ATLANTA (BP)—A man who admits he once experienced "culture shock" as the associate pastor of a black church has now tackled the task of teaching Southern Baptists how to start more black churches from scratch.

Willie McPhearson, the new consultant for the Home Mission Board's black church relations department, thinks God has uniquely prepared him for the job.

"I grew up in a black church in Mississippi and accepted Christ at age nine," McPhearson recalled. "But it wasn't until 19 years later that I understood—in a white Southern Baptist church—what being a Christian means."

In 1968, he and his wife joined First Baptist Church in Carlsbad, Calif., where she had accepted Christ. They were the church's first black members. "The thing that boggled my mind was these people were all from the Deep South, but they genuinely expressed love to us," McPhearson

marveled.

He remembers well the day he was ordained as the church's first black deacon. "Another deacon told me, 'One day, I can see you working in the Southern Baptist Convention to bridge the gap between blacks and whites.'"

For the next seven years, McPhearson steeped himself in Southern Baptists' mod operandi, earning degrees from California Baptist College in Riverside and Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary in Mill Valley, Calif.

It was when he returned to a black church as associate pastor that he experienced "some initial culture shock." After two years, he returned to Southern Baptist life as pastor of the all-white congregation of First Baptist Church in St. Helena, Calif.

In 1979, McPhearson became a black church consultant for Los Angeles. A year later, he took the job of director of black church ministries for California. "I've learned to relate

to any mixture," he smiled.

McPhearson hopes to provide a new approach to starting Southern Baptist churches in predominantly black communities. "From interpreting the 1980 census, the Home Mission Board has pinpointed large areas of people who are unreached and aren't attending any church," he said. "Many of these areas are black communities."

Until now, the "primary way new black churches have started is from church splits," he observed. "We've not seen a lot of black churches created from scratch, with all the built-in programs and structures of other new SBC churches."

From his experience in California, McPhearson is convinced there's great potential for new black church growth. "One of our black pastors in Sacramento got excited about Bold Mission Thrust and within three months, his church sponsored three new missions," he related. "And they're all growing."

One of the keys to new church starts is "finding as many churches as possible to be sponsors and models," he said. Another factor is educating black church leaders how the denomination works and teaching white churches how to work with their black counterparts.

Strategy is also affected by education and income levels in different areas, McPhearson explained. "In the suburbs, you find better-educated, middle-class blacks who may already be familiar with Southern Baptists" and who respond to traditional approaches. In the inner-city, where more blacks are out of work or on fixed incomes, ministry may begin with "finding the resources the people need to stay alive," he noted.

A byproduct of starting new black churches will be greater participation by blacks at all levels of the SBC, McPhearson predicts. He hopes such proximity will "ease fears and erase stereotypes" which might prevent

cooperation.

Though McPhearson fears race relations today are "regressing in some ways," he sees involving more blacks in the SBC as crucial if Bold Mission Thrust is to succeed. "God didn't promise things would move fast," he acknowledged, "but I think we're bridging the gap."

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Names in the News



LEWIS NOBLES (l), president of Mississippi College, along with members of the speech department of Mississippi College, honored JULIA M. TODD and HOLLIS B. TODD with a reception upon the occasion of their retirement. Both Todds hold the B.A. degree from Mississippi College and Ph.D from Louisiana State University. Hollis B. Todd, native of Amory, served as chairman of the speech and communicative arts department, 1949-1983, and professor of speech, 1949-1984. Julia M. Todd, native of Claiborne County, has served as a professor since 1949. A large number of faculty, staff, residents of Clinton, and former speech majors were on hand to share the occasion with the Todds.

Lester Mason, minister of music, and David Smith, minister of activities, at Harrisburg Church, Tupelo, will be ordained to the ministry on Sunday, May 27, at 7 p.m.

Green's Creek Church, Petal, honored its pastor and his family upon

their first year anniversary. The deacons presented to the pastor a new suit, tie, and shirt and a love offering was given to the family. Following the morning worship service there was a time of food and fellowship. Jimmie D. Garrard Sr. is pastor.

SEYMOUR, Tenn. (BP) William L. Palmer of Galax, Va., was elected president of Harrison Chilhowee Baptist Academy at a called meeting of the trustees April 18 on the Baptist school's campus. He will assume the presidency on June 1.

Palmer succeeds Hubert B. Smothers, who died Jan. 1 in a fire which destroyed the president's home. Since Smothers' death, the academy has been supervised by the trustee's executive committee, led by Jan Ellison, trustee chairman.

John Gibson Jr. was ordained to the gospel ministry March 4 by First Church, Greenwood. He is a



Mississippi College graduate, and served First Church, Greenwood, as youth director, 1979-1982. His father, John Gibson Sr., preached the ordination sermon.

Gibson Gibson is a fourth generation minister on his mother's side and a third generation minister on his father's side. He is a student at New Orleans Seminary. Ed McDaniel is pastor of First, Greenwood.

Staff Changes

West Laurel Church, Jones Association, recently welcomed its new pastor with a "fellowship luncheon" after the morning service.



Luther Price and his wife Crawford came to Laurel from Easley, S.C. where he had been pastor of Geer Memorial Church for six years. He is a graduate of William Carey College, Baptist Christian College, and has a certificate from the Babcock School of Management at Wake Forest. He previously pastored churches in Mississippi and Louisiana before moving to South Carolina.

The Prices have four children including twin sons who are involved in ministries to the deaf.

Adaton Church, Oktibbeha County, has called Bruce Markley as pastor.

Scotland Church, Rt. 1, Winona, has called Radford "Sonny" Redwine as pastor. He assumed duties on May 1. He goes from Linn Church. Redwine attended Blue Mountain College and has studied at Luther Rice Seminary. His wife is the former Judy Easley of Bruce. They have two children.

Jerry Guess, pastor at Self Creek Church, Oktibbeha County, has accepted the pastorate of Pleasant Hill Church, Leake County. Beginning June 1, his new address will be Rt. 1, Box 242, Carthage, Miss., 39051.

Curtis James has been interim pastor at Pleasant Hill since Jan. 1. and will be available for supply and interim work June 1.

Mark McArthur recently joined the staff of Baxterville Church near Lumberton as minister of music and youth. McArthur (Rt. 3, Box 770, Sumrall, Miss.) is married, with one child. He is a graduate of the University of Southern Mississippi and has served as Minister of Youth and Activities at Bunker Hill Church and Green's Creek Church. He also served as interim Minister of Music at Society Hill Church before joining the staff at Baxterville.

Just for the Record

The musical group Truth will be in concert May 21 at Broadmoor Church, Jackson. The 7:30 program will be free, with a love offering taken up. The 13-year old troupe has 30 albums out and has performed in 50 states and 13 foreign countries.

Bethel Church, Grenada County Association, will honor its pastor and wife, Mr. and Mrs. William B. McDaniel with a reception on Sunday afternoon, May 20.

The reception will be in recognition of his 20th year as pastor there, and will be held in the Fellowship Hall of the church from 2-4 p.m.

Fernwood Church, Gulfport, has given more than \$600 to the Annie Armstrong offering. W.M.U. Director Becky Barrett announced that the church had more than doubled its goal of \$300. "We were thrilled," she said "that our people gave so generously that we were able to send twice as much to the Home Mission Box." Paul Vandercook is pastor.

Court declines to settle Church Of Christ dispute

By Stan Hastey

WASHINGTON (BP)—The U.S. Supreme Court has announced it has no jurisdiction to settle an internal church dispute involving a Church of Christ congregation in Miami.

A pair of elders who had held office throughout the 30-year history of Liberty City Church of Christ took their minister to court after they fired him and he refused to leave. The elders contended they were not subject to the will of the congregation's majority, which voted to retain the minister, Freeman T. Wyche, and oust the elders.

Throughout the church's history, the elders argued in a legal brief filed with the high court, they had been empowered to "dictate" to the congregation on matters ranging from hiring and firing of ministers to controlling church funds.

But last year a trial court sided with Wyche, ruling the elders were subject to the congregation's major-

ity in the decision to retain the minister. The court also held that all church property, including the parsonage occupied by Wyche, likewise came under congregational control.

A state appeals court affirmed the trial court.

In asking the Supreme Court to deny a hearing in the case, an attorney for the congregation's majority noted that the church has no articles of incorporation vesting power in church elders. He argued that the Florida courts properly applied a state law governing religious property in siding with the church majority.

The attorney argued further that the high court should dismiss the ousted elders' appeal because they had not raised First Amendment questions in the state court proceedings.

(Hastey writes for the Baptist Joint Committee.)

College enrollment is up

By Lonnie Wilkey

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — In a year when college enrollments were predicted to decline, Southern Baptist colleges and universities reported a 2.9 percent increase in fall enrollments.

According to figures released by the institutions to the Education Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention, 94,769 students enrolled in credit courses for 1983, compared to 92,076 in 1982. The figures do not include students enrolled in non-credit courses.

Missouri Baptist College in St. Louis had the largest percentage increase (41 percent) as 574 students enrolled in 1983 compared to 406 in 1982.

Large gains were also seen at Truett-McConnell College in Cleveland, Ga., (25.7 percent); Southern

Baptist College in Walnut Ridge, Ark., (20.5 percent); William Jewell College in Liberty, Mo., (18 percent) and William Carey College in Hattiesburg, Miss., (16.9 percent).

Most of the colleges said the increases resulted from more aggressive recruiting and new course offerings.

Ouachita Baptist University in Arkadelphia, Ark., experienced the largest decrease (11.1 percent) as student enrollment dropped from 1,691 in 1982 to 1,504 in 1983. Baptist college at Charleston (S.C.) was close behind as it underwent a 10.8 percent decrease, falling from 2,174 students to 1,940.

Mississippi's three Baptist institutions (Blue Mountain College, Mississippi College and William Carey College) reported 5,632 students, a 7.2 percent increase.

In terms of total enrollment, Baylor University in Waco, Texas, is the largest Southern Baptist College with 10,818 students. Other schools in the top 10 in number of students are Mercer University, 5,064; Wake Forest University, 4,818; University of Richmond, 4,499; Samford University, 4,042; Campbell University, 3,787; Mississippi College, 3,573; Furman University, 3,033; Stetson University, 2,782 and Houston Baptist University, 2,738.

(Wilkey writes for the SBC Education Commission.)

Missionary News

Richard and Susan Goodgame, missionaries to Uganda, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: 252 S. Garden Circle, Clearwater, Fla., 33516). He was born in Nashville, Tenn., but also lived in Jackson, Miss., and considers Clearwater, Fla., his hometown. The former Susan Boone, daughter of Southern Baptist missionaries, she was born in Fort Worth, Tex.

Paul and Margie Thibodeaux, missionaries to Eastern Europe, may be addressed at Pacassistrasse 56,

A-1130 Vienna, Austria. Born in New Orleans, La., he considers Oxford, Miss., his hometown. The former Margie Harris, she was born in Falmouth, Mass., and considers Oxford, Miss., her hometown.

Robert and Beverly Thomas, Southern Baptist representatives to Yemen, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: c/o W. T. Buford, Rt. 2, Box E-1, Senatobia, Miss. 38668). He is a native of Tennessee. She was born in Memphis, and grew up in Senatobia, Miss.

Carmel celebrates 75th

Carmel Church, Monticello, observed homecoming and the 75th anniversary of the church May 6 with dinner on the ground.



Ladnier

Oliver C. Ladnier, pastor of First Church, Magee, spoke during the morning worship hour. Ladnier was pastor of Carmel from 1957 until 1960.

Billy Todd and the Masters Quartet from Pensacola, Fla. sang during an afternoon service.

Robert L. Dunn is pastor.

Government is a trust, and the officers of the government are trustees; and both the trust and the trustees are created for the benefit of the people.—Henry Clay

If conscience smite thee once, it is admonition; if twice, it is condemnation.

Book Reviews

JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI'S CAPITAL CITY by Lena Scott Price, illustrated by Alice Reilly; published by Children's Publications, Jackson, Miss.; 25 pages; Paperback; \$5.

This is a book for children written by a retired teacher of first, second, and third graders in Jackson public schools. It is very easy to read and has illustrations on each page. Each page contains a separate fact about Jackson in language easily understandable by young readers. Examples of subjects covered are policemen, firemen, sports, parks, the city auditorium, the old capitol museum, the new capitol, the city hall, the fair grounds, flea markets, cultural centers, and shopping centers.

The book is to be found in various stories around the city such as department stores. The reviewer has a particular interest in the book because the author notes that she received her first nudging to write from a writers' workshop conducted by the reviewer. The book is an excellent learning vehicle for children with a great deal of simple information about what a city is.—DTM

THE RELIGION OF POWER, by Cheryl Forbes; Zondervan Publishing House, 1983; 164 pages; hardback, \$9.95.

Cheryl Forbes is a well-known journalist and writer who was for several years an editor and writer with Christianity Today magazine. In this her first book she challenges the contemporary preoccupation with power and success. She believes that success is a euphemism for power and that it is ultimately a god that dehumanizes us. Power promises us a name and yet disallows for frailty and failure.

She finds the religion of power being exercised by Billy Graham who tried and failed to influence the politics of Richard Nixon. The god of power is worshiped by the pure secularist who dresses to be a success, buys and decorates his home to be a success, and drives a car that will make him look successful.

She challenges the modern notion that the Bible holds the key to success and that, since Christianity works, it is therefore true. She points to the teachings of Jesus and of Paul to show that our contemporary view of power and success is unbiblical and ungodly. Preachers like Peale and Schuller preach a gospel of power. Jesus said we would change the world through commitment, service, and sacrifice. The temptation of Jesus was the temptation to power, but he had a ministry of powerlessness and meekness. His power is the power to overcome evil, not the power to manipulate people so that we get our own way. From the scriptures and especially the Sermon on the Mount she finds that true power creates, redeems, transforms, heals, unifies, strengthens, feeds, serves, and makes whole. She urges the Christian to say "no" to power and to say "yes" to Jesus' way of changing and challenging our world.

This book is an unsettling book. The reader will find himself exposed by its insights. Very few authors today have the nerve to venture into this area. These kinds of books don't normally become best sellers (successful). Forbes has opened a discus-

sion which hopefully will continue for some time. We can look for other authors to continue the debate. Reviewed by Alan Day, pastor, First, McComb.

THE HARD SAYINGS OF JESUS, by F. F. Bruce; Inter-Varsity Press, 1983; 266 pages; paperback, \$6.95.

This is the first book in a series entitled *The Jesus Library* and edited by Michael Green. Bruce examines 70 of the so-called hard sayings of Jesus and divides them into two categories.

First, there are those sayings which are hard because they are difficult to understand. Notable in this category are Jesus' statement concerning eating his flesh and drinking his blood in John 6:53 and Jesus' cry of dereliction, "Why hast Thou forsaken me?" in Matthew 27:46.

The second category of hard sayings is those that are hard to obey, such as turning the other cheek, Matthew 5:39, and Jesus' teaching on divorce, Mark 10:11-12.

Bruce also deals with apparent contradictions and inconsistencies in the spoken ministry of our Lord, and he does so without shallow harmonization. Source criticism is employed in a method in keeping with Bruce's high view of the integrity and authority of Scripture. Bruce draws on his wealth of knowledge to clear away the cultural and historical difficulties which would keep us from understanding the real import of Jesus' message.

This book is probably the first of its kind, although in many ways it is reminiscent of T. W. Manson's *The Teaching of Jesus and The Sayings of Jesus*. Though this work is not a full commentary on the life and teachings of our Lord, it will stand alongside of such works and the biblical commentaries as a rich source of materials for pastors and teachers.

The lasting impression from this book is that the theology and ethic of Jesus is not for the shallow and the soft. Jesus called men to think deeply and to act resolutely in the light of the kingdom of God which was breaking in upon them in his life and ministry. Reviewed by Alan Day, pastor, First, McComb.

KEEPING FREE by Frank Pollard (Broadman, 122 pp.) Pollard, president of Golden Gate Seminary, San Francisco, and former pastor of First Baptist Church, Jackson, in this book observes that "freedom gives us the opportunity to make choices. But if we use our freedom to make wrong choices, we lose it." Some of the chapters are *Keeping Free*, *The Freedom of Total Commitment*, *Finding the Source of Freedom*, *Keeping in Touch with Freedom's Source*, *Passing on the Gift of Freedom*, *Live and Help Live*, *The Freedom of Sexual Control*, *Loose Talk Sinks Freedom*, *Don't Steal Freedom from Yourself*, and *Freedom Begins in Your Head*. The theme is this—that "if the Son sets you free, then you will really be free" (John 8:36). Pollard's writing is like his preaching—beautiful in its simplicity and straight to the point, inviting the reader or listener to think deep, and leaving an intriguing challenge, "Try this in your life."—AWM



Parkway, Jackson, honors teachers

Parkway Church, Jackson, recently held a special Teacher Appreciation Banquet. There was an attendance of more than 200 teachers to hear Ron Lewis as he spoke to them on the sacrifice they must make to be a good Sunday School teacher. Also at the banquet, awards were presented. There were 60 teachers who received a certificate for teaching at least 20 consecutive years. Pictured above are the teachers who received a plaque for teaching at least 50 consecutive years. The theme of the banquet was "The Longer I Serve Him the Sweeter He Grows." From left are David Suddath, minister of education; Mrs. Elsie Andrews, 54 years; Mrs. W. R. Storie, 55 years; E. T. Jenkins, 55 years; Harry Jones, 50 years; W. P. Bobo, 57 years; Curtis Beard, 57 years; Bill Causey, pastor. Not pictured are Mrs. Jewell Beard, 50 years, and Mrs. Odie Wells, 50 years.

Devotional

God sees the sparrow

By Rex Yancey, pastor, First, Quitman

Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? And one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear ye not therefore, ye are of more value than many sparrows. (Matt. 10:29-31).

I was in the ministry of evangelism in 1972 and living in Tupelo. It was just about two weeks before Christmas, and there was no money to buy Christmas presents for my children. My wife and I discussed our plight and came to the conclusion that Christmas morning, rather than exchange presents, we would share with our children the most important gift that was ever given.

My telephone rang a few days later and a deacon's wife at the church where we had our membership asked me to come to her house. I went, not knowing what to expect. However, when I got there, she opened the trunk of her car and it was filled with Christmas presents for children. She said, "The Lord has laid your family on my heart this Christmas. I used to love to buy presents for my children, and I enjoyed buying these for your children."

I cannot describe for you my exact feelings at that moment. Here was living proof that Christian people really care for others. I also learned that as long as I was in God's will, he knew and would meet my needs, even to the point of providing Christmas presents.

I would encourage each reader to remember that God sees the sparrow that falls. He knows the number of hairs on your head. He knows exactly what you need and when you need it. "Ye are of more value than many sparrows."

This experience literally enriched my life. If this had not happened to me, I would have missed a great blessing. As it is, I know that God knows what I am facing. Because he knows what is before me, then I can face it, no matter what it is!

Baptist witness for Michelin City

CLERMONT - FERRAND, France.—The world headquarters city of the Michelin Tire Company, Clermont-Ferrand, France, was without a Baptist witness until Feb. 17. That was the day Southern Baptist missionaries John and Sarah Perkins, working under the French Baptist Home Mission Board, held the first worship services at a rented downtown Baptist Center. Seventeen people were present.

The city of a quarter million people has only 300 known evangelicals divided among one Brethren and three Pentecostal churches. The Perkinses also will assist in a church in Issoire, 18 miles from Clermont-Ferrand. He is from Pensacola, Fla., and she, from Jackson, Miss.

One hour's sleep before midnight is worth three after.—George Herbert.

Thursday, May 10, 1984

Revival Dates

Ted Church, Smith Association: May 20-25; Harold C. Ishee, pastor, Plainway Church, Laurel, evangelist; services each evening at 7:30; lunch following Sunday morning service with afternoon service following lunch, John E. Barrow, pastor.

Baxterville (Lamar): May 20-26; 7 nightly; Donnie Guy, pastor of Woolmarket Church, evangelist; Bill and Marian Lee, musical evangelists, leading music; special musical concert by Bill and Marian Lee, Saturday night at 7 — all youth groups invited; Bert Burleson, pastor.

Briar Hill Church, Florence: May 13-16; evangelist, Sonny Adkins; Music will be led by Eric McNair, Pelahatchie Church; Services Sunday at 11 a.m. and 7:15 p.m.; week-day times 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Wilson Winstead, Pastor.

Eastview Church, Laurel: May 17-20; Gene Erwin, pastor, Harrisville Church, preaching; John R. Woodham, minister of music and youth, Eastview, leading the music; services at 10:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. on 17-18; at 7 p.m. on the 19th; 11 a.m. on the 20th; special music each service; Robert Scott, pastor.

Pray for MKs

May 18—Jerrell R. Ballard, Colombia, Mississippi College.

May 23—J. Mark Merritt, Germany; University of Southern Mississippi.

Homecomings

Oak Grove Church, Winston County, will observe homecoming May 13. Morning worship services at 11 a.m. The pastor, W. A. McPheeters, will deliver the message. Ivan Reynolds and Carol Anthony will be in charge of the music. The church has completed a remodeling program by adding brick veneer, storm windows, and a new roof.



Grace auditorium dedicated

Grace Church, Vicksburg, dedicated a new auditorium to the Lord on Easter Sunday. The church roll of resident members was called. More than 350 were in attendance. H. Bryan Abel is pastor.

SCRAPBOOK

Wisdom of the ages

The red rose bush was bare.
Only the white one shimmered there.
I was surprised Spring came at all,
the country house battered by winter since fall
with southern freeze empty of snow.
Yet Mama's wisteria did not fail to grow
high in the pines, and angel wings
shaped the white azalea, and a bird sings
on the cross of Mama's English dogwood.
I picked the roses for her, tinged with blood
from my thorn-pricked finger, and put the vase
on her table, and I sat in her place.
I opened her Bible. Her bookmark
was a bank deposit slip with words stark
in faith, from whence I do not know,
written in firm 94-year-old hand -
"Upon a life I did not live,
upon a death I did not die,
I base my whole Eternity."

—Violet Tackett
McComb

Still in style

Has the trend of our times altered motherhood,
Or diminished her love for her child?
Is honor still due?
Has the world changed its view?
Is the old-fashioned mother out-of-style?

Does the crusade of some to be rid of the role
That a woman exists for her man
Lessened the joys of motherhood
And the love only she understands?

No career, nor success, equals motherhood
In the joy that a new mother knows.
Baby cuddled in arms,
She succumbs to its charms,
Staying captured each year as it grows.

Times have changed, we admit; but a true mother's heart
Still beats with the same tenderness.
If she shuts her heart's door
In her search for much more,
She will find her reward to be less.

—Ina Hayes Jenkins
Laurel

Little boy lost

I held your small hand in mine,
And I taught you how to walk.
I showed you the world so fine,
As I taught you how to talk.
I bandaged skinned elbows and knees,
And patched dirty, torn jeans.
I listened to all your wild schemes,
And I mended your broken dreams.
I watched as you walked off alone
On your way to school.
I shed a loving tear then, for a baby,
Who was now my little boy.
I watched as your tricycle was discarded,
In exchange for motorcycles and cars.
I ached over your first love lost
But I could not heal its scars.

The years flow by so very fast.
The little boy days soon passed.
The teenage years, too, slipped away.
I kissed them all goodbye today.
I listen now for my baby's cry
I look for my little boy's dirty face.
I wait for my teenager to call in the night,
"You can sleep, now, Mom. I'm home."
They all are precious memories, today,
Wrapped in velvet and locked away.
You stand before me now, just as dear,
Just as fair, just as loving.
But I look with pride, into the face of
The man my son has become today.

—Yvonne Gressett, Jackson

Mothers are special

God took a mixture of courage and love,
Mixed in some patience, straight from above
A whole lot of faith and charity, too,
Some cheer and some hope, to mention a few!

He threw in some stamina, a portion of grit
A lot of endurance and a measure of wit,
A great understanding and tolerance, true!
A whole heap of kindness and loyalty, too.

Put all these together, and a mother you'll see,
For mothers are special; don't you agree?
And it wasn't by chance that they're special, I say,
For God in his wisdom made them that way!

—Ruth Norsworthy Crager
State Line

Musicians will emphasize worship

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (BP)—Worship will be emphasized at the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Church Music Conference, June 10-11 in First Baptist Church of Raytown, a suburb of Kansas City.

The conference is one of the meetings which precede the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention. The 1984 SBC will meet June 12-14 in Roe H. Bartle Hall of the Kansas City Convention Center.

Fes Robertson, music conference president, said the "main thrust of the program is on worship," and said there will be two major addresses on worship as well as three worship services during the meeting.

Calvin Miller, pastor of Westside Baptist Church in Omaha, Neb., and a noted author, will lead one of the worship services and will address the

music specialists on "The Lure of Worship," and "The Cross In Worship."

Alton McEachern, pastor of First Baptist Church of Greensboro, N.C., will lead two of the worship services.

"The first worship service will not be formally structured, the second will be very evangelical in nature, and the third a more liturgically-oriented service," said Robertson, supervisor of the church music department at the Baptist Sunday School Board in Nashville, Tenn. "The three worship services will be the most predominant patterns of worship in the Southern Baptist Convention and hopefully out of these models will come some new ideas."

Coordinating the music for the worship services will be Don Hustad, a former musician with the Billy

Graham evangelistic team currently on the faculty of Southern Seminary in Louisville, Ky.

Other major addresses during the meeting will be by Lloyd Elder, new president of the Sunday School Board, who will discuss "What Happens When Baptists Gather to Worship," and Joe Stacker, supervisor of the church administration department at the BSSB, who will discuss shared ministries.

"Worship is something every minister of music is vitally concerned with," said Robertson.

Other features of the program include presentations from musical groups ranging from an older children's choir, handbell choir, young adult ensemble, all state youth choir, youth choir, adult choir, and a professional brass group.



Holmes welcomes BSU director

A joint meeting involving college officials and Baptist leaders from the nine county area served by Holmes Junior College met recently to welcome a new BSU director, James S. Allen. Allen also serves Main Street Church, Goodman, as pastor.

The nine county area includes Attala, Carroll, Choctaw, Grenada, Holmes, Madison, Montgomery, Webster, and Yazoo.

Allen outlined the immediate program, and included several long-range plans for future consideration. Included in those plans is the pressing need for a permanent BSU building near the campus.

During discussion Allen stressed the importance of contact with the local associations and churches, and said he was available to discuss BSU work with pastors, churches, and to meet with pastors conferences and with associations.

Those participating in the meeting (pictured from left) are Allen, Gene Richardson, director of admissions, HJC; M. Reed Thorne, president, HJC; J. W. Brister, Hinds-Madison Missions director; Levon Moore, Attala Missions director; Jerry Merriman, director, student work, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board; and Nolan Houston, Carroll-Montgomery Missions director. Also taking part in the meeting was Tommy Davis, director of continuing education, HJC, who was not in the photograph.

Religious educators to feature Hendricks, enrichment confabs

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (BP) — Theologian William Hendricks will speak three times and eight enrichment conferences will be offered at the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Religious Education Association, June 10-11 in Kansas City.

The conferences will offer specific training in the areas of family life, leadership, stress, professional growth, social security changes, physical fitness and discovering prospects for the church.

Hendricks is professor of systematic theology and philosophy of religion at Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Mill Valley, Calif.

Also Paul Powell, pastor of Green Acres Baptist Church, Tyler, Tex. and Dennis Parrott, minister of education at the same church, will have a presentation on staff relations. Featured musicians will be Phil Briggs, professor at Southwestern Seminary in Fort Worth, and Rosemary Hoover, a layperson from Kansas City, Mo.

The 1984 theme is "Being! . . . Becoming!" The meeting will meet Sunday afternoon, Sunday evening, Monday morning, Monday afternoon and Monday evening. All sessions will be at the Adam's Mark Hotel in Kansas City.

The SBREA also will present the annual Distinguished Leadership Awards and the Officer Choice Recognitions during the meeting.

First Leonard Holloway award given at MC

Grover Glenn of Leland has been awarded the first Leonard Holloway Scholarship at Mississippi College.

Holloway, who died in May 1982, left funds in his estate to provide scholarships for individuals who are preparing "to extend the Christian witness into new and unreached areas."

The scholarship represents a continuation of Reverend Holloway's life work of establishing churches in Arizona, Ohio, and Mississippi. Among the churches which he established in Mississippi are the Robinson Street Baptist Church of Jackson and the Crescent Hills Baptist Church of Meridian. Holloway was a graduate of Mississippi College and of Southern Seminary.



First, Dallas, SS hits record 12,000

DALLAS (BP)—The First Church, Dallas, went down in the record books Easter Sunday when 12,058 persons attended Sunday school, the highest attendance in Sunday School ever in the Southern Baptist Convention. W. A. Criswell is pastor.

In general those who nothing have to say contrive to spend the longest time in doing it.—Lowell

THE VILLAGE VIEW



FROM
Baptist Children's Village

P. O. Box 11308

Jackson, MS 39213

Gifts of Honor and Memory March 25 - April 25, 1984

A portion of the Village View is allocated each month to a listing of Gifts of Honor and Memory. Many groups and individuals elect to pay tribute to others through this sensitive, meaningful and helpful medium. This feature is hopefully designed to further honor, with taste and respect, those who are and have been special to our special friends.

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Johnnie Adcock
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Mrs. Sam Bounds
Mrs. Bob Lanier
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Mrs. Jane Biggers
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(The remainder of this month's listing of gifts of honor and memory will appear in our June publication.)

Uniform Be careful what you say

By Robert Earl Shirley, pastor, Parkway, Tupelo
James 3:1-10; 13-18

Like Paul in each of his epistles, James seems to be dealing in this chapter with a particular problem that existed in the church of his day. Because of the prestige and honor given to such leaders, teaching opportunities were greatly coveted by the early Christians. The synagogues of the Jews allowed just about anyone who wanted to do so to speak and they were ready to listen to anyone who elected to accept the invitation.

We recall that Christ spoke there in Nazareth on the Sabbath day. It was because of the lack of restrictions that James counseled his readers that they should not all try to be teachers of that which they did not fully understand. Moreover, the role involves tremendous responsibilities and one must be held accountable for what he says. If one can teach morality, he must know what is right and wrong and so has no excuse if he wavers.

Because of the difficulty in controlling one's tongue, one who could do so would be considered a mature or perfect person and, therefore, able to control the other areas of his life. We need to remember that such ambition in itself is not inherently evil. We should have a zeal for Christ and Christian service. It is only when such selfish desires take our attention from Christ and focus it on the individual that it is to be condemned.

The Untamed Tongue (3:1-10). Although many of our heart's desires are put into action without the benefit

of speech, James sees our words as a constant instrument in our conduct. The tongue is an evil force in our life that serves to defile or pollute the whole body. James goes so far as to suggest that the fire of the tongue is kindled in hell, and he uses a number of illustrations to emphasize the danger of not watching what one says. Although it is a small part of the body, when it is not held in check, the damage that the tongue can do can spread like a forest fire.

Small bits in the horse's mouth control its actions, and a small rudder on a huge ship guides it to its destination. In like manner, the tongue has an influence far beyond what its size would indicate.

Untold numbers of unhappy people no longer attend our churches because they were offended by the unkind, biting criticisms, or thoughtless gossip of some super-pious Christian. Perhaps if church members would repeat the message of Jesus as often and as loudly as they do the news of any bit of tension or trouble in their congregation, we could win the world to Christ in a single generation.

Surely our testimony loses its power and ethical drive when both blessings and cursings are heard coming from the same mouth. Unkind words may well be compared with a deadly poison, but unlike most poisons, there is no antidote. Once spoken, they can never be recalled. It may be true that "the tongue no man

can tame," but it is also true, "these things ought not to be."

The wise man (3:13-18). If one is to serve as a teacher, he will need true wisdom that is demonstrated in godly day by day living. The word, "conversation," does not refer merely to one's speech but to his total life style.

The early church had to deal with the Gnostics for years, a self-righteous heretical group that claimed superior knowledge for its members, and it seems likely that James is confronting such teachings in his words here.

There is danger in the propagation of false doctrines, and there is harm to be done by those who teach with the wrong attitude. The ambitious person who is so jealous of his position that he will not even consider the feeling of beliefs or others and who is so dogmatic in his own wisdom that he will defend his position at the expense of truth has a false wisdom that is earthly, sensual, and demon-like. Such actions, words, and condition of heart can produce only confusion and evil.

That true wisdom that comes only from God is pure and holy. Likewise, it is characterized by a love for peace whenever such is possible, is kind and open to reason, and is full of mercy and good fruits. Free from doubting, insincerity, or hypocrisy, it seeks the good of others. The fruit of righteousness is found only in peace.

Life and Work

Honoring parents

By Gerald P. Buckley, pastor, Parkway, Natchez
Luke 2:51, Mark 7:8-13

No question exists regarding divine instruction that we honor and respect parents. However, uncertainties arise in the application to life today.

What does one do when parents can no longer care for themselves? Should we take them into our home, or should we place them in a life-care facility? Many middle-aged adults have agonized over such a decision.

How to divide time is often a problem for a young adult. He needs to be with his immediate family as much as possible, but his parents feel he should spend more time with them.

I. Honor through obedience (Luke 2:51)

The fifth commandment reads: "Honor your father and your mother." This command formed the foundation of all family relationships within Israel. The teaching is repeated in the New Testament (Eph. 6:2) and remains the basis for Christian family life. The family will continue to disintegrate unless honor is shown toward one's parents.

How did Jesus treat his parents? Most of what we learn about his home comes by implication rather than by direct teaching. The one clear indication comes from this passage in Luke.

When Jesus' family returned to Nazareth from their attendance at the Passover, Jesus appeared quite willing to take his proper place in the home. It was as though he was the natural child of Mary and Joseph. He treated them with honor and respect.

How best could Jesus honor his parents? He honored them through obedience. True honor will always be shown in obedience. While obedience is expected of every child, it meant even more in the case of Jesus. Evidently he already recognized that he had a unique relation with God. Jesus spoke of him as Father.

Although Jesus had begun to grasp his special relationships with God, this did not make him look down on his humble parents, the gentle Mary and the hard-working Joseph.

II. Ways of dishonoring parents (Mark 7:8-13)

Jesus referred to a neat trick by

without a man. There would be a period of abstinence (3).

Likewise, this period when Israel had no leader and no worship (4) would cause them to eagerly return to seek God and their nation (5a). With trembling they will come to God and his goodness. God will ultimately triumph. The hope of the world is in the character of a God of love (5b).

"But God, being rich in mercy, because of his great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up together with him in the heavenly places, in Christ Jesus, in order that in the ages to come he might show the surpassing riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus" (Eph. 2:4-7).

which some persons of that day were released from the command to honor father and mother. By willing their property to the temple, persons could keep the property during their lifetime and escape the duty of providing for needy parents. If they were accused of failing to obey the commandment, they could say that their property prevented them from using it to support parents.

Needless to say, Jesus thoroughly disapproved of the practice. What is the principle for us? Do not go looking for ways to dump parents who no longer can care for themselves.

It was not always an easy matter to know what to do for aged parents.

We should be very careful about criticism of people who place parents in a nursing home. Many times there are health conditions that require round the clock attention and treatment that cannot be taken care of properly in the home. I have known church members through the years who went through agony over placing a parent in a nursing home. This was not their desire, but the physical condition ruled out keeping them at home.

The other side of the coin must also be examined. There are children who fail to meet their responsibilities to parents. They dump them in a nursing home and largely ignore them. They rarely visit that parent, seldom remember them on holidays, seldom phone or write. Those aging parents live with a breaking heart because their children fail to provide the love so desperately needed.

God's word clearly teaches that we are to care for our parents when the need arises. Many children would do well to remember all that their parents have done for them. Our parents brought us into this world, fed us when we were unable to feed ourselves, took care of us when we were sick, provided shelter and clothes, attended our ballgames and activities, and helped us get an education. A person with the love of Christ in his heart will joyfully help and honor his aging parents.

Bible Book

God's word through Hosea's marriage

By Bill Causey, pastor, Parkway, Jackson
Hosea 1-3

In this first lesson we are to see how the events and experiences of the prophet's life became a message from God. The first verse tells us that this prophecy took place in Israel, the Northern Kingdom, at the same time Isaiah prophesied in Judah (see Isaiah 1:1), in the south.

I. Hosea's family and Israel are similar (1:1-2:1)

Hosea is described as being told to take a wife of harlotry. Probably Hosea is looking backward and realizes that he married a person whose whole life was bent upon adultery. Hosea sees this as precisely like God taking Israel as his "wife" (vs. 2). The first son was named Jezreel. His name was a message to the "house" of the kingly line (4-5) and it means "God sows" or "scatters." This play on words meant that God would "scatter" Israel because of what happened in the valley by that same name (II Kings 10:1-11). The second child, a girl, was named Lo-ruhamah. It means "no compassion" for Israel (6) even though Judah in the south will still receive God's compassion (7) and deliverance.

The third child, a boy, was named Lo-ammi. This was also a message meaning you are "not my people" (9), and "I am not your God." Just as these names have messages in the sense listed above, they also have messages of mercy and hope when their opposite meanings are considered: Jezreel also means "sows or

plants" (as well as scatter) (11), and when the "Lo" (meaning "not") is dropped from the second two names they can mean "compassion" and "my people" (2:1). God's merciful "yet" at the beginning of verse 10 was their only hope of restoration and ultimate redemption after exile.

II. Gomer's experience and Israel's experience are similar (2:2-23)

Verses 1-7 describe Hosea's efforts to get the children to influence their mother during the time of their divorce (vs. 2 is the language of divorce), and remind her of the penalty of adultery (3) and the shame she has brought on the family (5a). She placed more value on material things (5b). Finding life complicated, and her uncaring lovers now gone, she selfishly exploits the possibility of returning to her husband (7b) because life was better then.

Verses 8-13 show us how like Gomer Israel is. God was really the source of everything good and they used what God gave them to worship Baal. So God stops Israel's prosperity (9) and leaves them exposed (10). They will stop their celebrations (11) in which they attribute the fertility of the land to Baal (12). Israel will be punished for acting just like a lavishly decorated prostitute who forgot her husband (13).

Verse 14 with the word "behold" introduces a surprising element into the narrative. God will "court" Israel and make her valley of Achor

(suffering) become a door of hope (15a). She will remember the first days of their first love when delivered from Egypt (15b). Israel will then call God "Ishi" (husband) rather than call him with a pagan idol's name (16-17). It will be a new "marriage" (19a) between God and Israel. The natural order and the people will be in peace and harmony (18) and there will be righteousness and justice, lovingkindness, and compassion (19b). Faithfulness and intimacy (20) will characterize this new marriage. This will reverse the tragedy and renew the responsiveness of God to the land. Nature's harmonies (21-22a) produce the ultimate result of reversing those names: Jezreel now means Israel is "planted" in the land; "no compassion" is now "compassion"; and "not my people" is now "my people" and consequently God is their God (23).

III. God's love and Hosea's love are similar (3:1-5)

Love greater than sin is the only hope for the sinner. Dealing redemptively salvages the "unfit" one. The quality that redeems is not because of anything worthy in the unfaithful one, but because of the character of the one offended. The initiating love is in God and Hosea. Gomer and Israel do not deserve it—it is sheer grace (1). Hosea bought Gomer back from the slavemarket to which sin had reduced her (2) and caused her to spend time without harlotry and

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